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NEWS & OPINION

LETTERS

"The Water Tunnel Boondoggle," Feature 5/14

Masterful Job

Once again the *Express* has done a masterful job of journalism while covering both sides of the very hotly disputed Bay Delta Conservation Plan/peripheral tunnels proposal.

There is one aspect that deserves further mention. The story points out that under some scenarios the taxpayers could end up shouldering much of the financial burden. The fact is that even under the rosiest scenarios, the BDCP plan documents show that at least $8 billion of the cost (so-called habitat restoration and other mitigation measures) will be paid for by taxpayers. Many of us live in areas that will receive absolutely no benefit from the BDCP/peripheral tunnels plan. Why should our tax dollars be used to pay for any part of it?

Jerry Cadagan, Sonora

The Whole Thing Smells

Excellent article by Joaquin Palomino. This is a very difficult issue to wrap one's head around, the tentacles come from every angle. He laid this out as best as anyone could, especially for one not living around the Delta.

The particular angle I'd like to see explored is "follow the money." Who is really behind this?

It can't go on the ballot, so the voters are kept out of the mix. Our esteemed political parasites in Sacramento do nothing if it does not benefit them or someone close to them. Who really benefits? Certainly not those of us who live and toil in the Delta!

Old senile uncle Jerry [Brown] seems possessed by this "project." I believe he has Faustian nightmares of not having his name on a public works project like his father before him. He does not really need campaign cash or even patronage. So what gives? It has many scratching their heads. Something bigger is down the line — tradeoff for that stupid choo-choo train? Jerry's projects are so last century: who is advising him — the ghost of Crocker/Stanford/Huntington?

This whole thing smells. It would take a writer of Mr. Palomino's talents to get to the silty bottom of all this.

Theresa Salazar, Courtland

[illegible] News 5/14

Justice Just A Word

If only this was 1789 and the guillotine was being erected in every town square in America as a warning to the connected that if they continue in such practices they will be disconnected at the neck. Heads must roll for there to be justice. Vive la révolution! Alas we live in an age when justice is now just a word, a tarnished word at that.

Franklin Graham, Santa Rosa

"Oakland Needs Tougher Ethics Rules," Seven Days,

Shout-Out

These reforms are long overdue and should enjoy overwhelming support from the Oakland electorate in November. A big shout out please for Councilmember Dan Kalb, the League of Women Voters, and the other members of the working group.

Ken Katz, Oakland

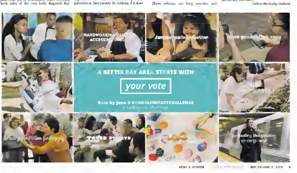
"Teachers Forced to Sign New Personal 'Morals Code'," News 5/

Discrimination Isn't Moral

There is absolutely nothing wrong with a "moral code" — in fact, more of us could use one. However, to discriminate against someone in terms of employment, because they do not meet your moral code is wrong and is not moral! One of the wonderful things about Bishop O'Dowd was that this was a school that was about teaching everyone, and not discriminating against others because of their race, religion, or their socio-economic background. It was a safe place where everyone could learn. It has an eclectic and diverse faculty with many phenomenal teachers, committed to education. This should be the emphasis of O'Dowd. The private lives of the faculty and staff is irrelevant to their ability to provide a unique and quality education, and to inspire students to care about what they are learning.

O'Dowd has always accepted non-Catholic students, stating that you do not need to be Catholic to come to the school. In fact only about half of the student body is Catholic, so why not extend the very same openness to the faculty and staff?

Colleen McCauley, Oakland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Indigenous Leaders Mobilize Against Fossil Fuel Industry

A group of indigenous activists have begun to organize against the expansion of oil refineries in the San Francisco Bay Area. Known as Idle No More San Francisco (INM-SF) the group is led by Pennie Opal Plant and is spearheading a series of "Healing Walks" to protest the corridor of fossil fuel refineries in five cities along the Carquinez Strait, including the Chevron facility and proposed WesPac terminal in Pittsburg. The first of the Connect the Dots Healing Walks was fifteen miles, taking walkers from Pittsburg to Martinez on foot.

"It's time to begin a graceful transition to clean energy," opined Opal Plant. "That is preferable to an abrupt transition that could happen in the future when people realize how fossil fuels are profoundly damaging the world's climate." The indigenous leader said that the first healing walk arose after citizens of the refinery towns Pittsburg and Martinez began to get to know one another and understand that their health issues had common oily roots. Happily the walk facilitated alliances between the citizens being affected in the refinery communities and their Bay Area neighbors. "It was powerful to walk in prayer past the proposed WesPac site, Tesoro and Shell refineries," said Opal Plant. "Praying for a just transition as well as the safety of the refinery workers." Although the walkers expected dissenting honks from passing vehicles, drivers instead "honked their horns and shouted" cries of support and encouragement.

This all began in Canada in November 2012, when four women created Idle No More (INM) in reaction to legislation proposed by Prime Minister [Stephen] Harper that would have violated First Nations rights and decimated environmental protections. A non-violent indigenous mass movement, INM endeavors to "protect water, air, land and all creation for future generations."

Since its inception two autumns ago, the INM movement has swept the continent with speed, utilizing the full battery of non-violent resistance techniques: flash mobs in the form of round dances in malls, protests, direct action, blockades, and even a high-profile hunger strike. It seems to have successfully galvanized a public front opposed to the Harper government's assault against the health of North American people and ecosystems. Such is the support around the world that solidarity events have taken place on every continent, with the exception of Antarctica.

The INM movement has two primary targets. First, it seeks to stop the extraction and processing of oil tar sands, a type of fossil fuel whose withdrawal requires egregious amounts of water, energy, and destruction of soil. The largest industrial project in human history, tar sands excavation produces three to four times more greenhouse gases than regular oil extraction. These oil resources happen to lie under 140,000 square kilometers of pristine boreal forest, an area the size of England, which the tar sands industry is already decimating to get at the oil.

At least a few facts about tar sands industry operations deserve our attention. First, they produce lakes of toxic sludge large enough to be seen from outer space, eviscerating the habitats of thousands of species. Secondly, transporting the volatile chemical-crude oil mixture through pipelines and over rail imperils the health of communities, both human and non-human. This became strikingly evident when in the Quebec town of Lac-Megantic last summer a number of train cars containing crude oil came loose, exploding, destroying the town, and killing 47 people. Furthermore, to extract all of the existing tar sands could liberate more climate pollution than the US and China combined have released in all their history. With certainty that outcome would spell certain death for much of life on Earth due to the compounding effects of global climatic heating.

INM's second major objective appears to be to shut down the construction of at least five major oil pipelines that would transport highly volatile oil from Canadian extraction plants to the US's western and southern ports for processing. The southern leg of the Keystone XL Pipeline — currently under non-violent assault by farmers, ranchers and Native people of all political persuasions across the Midwest — is already under construction, and fossil fuel corporations are pressuring President Obama to approve the rest of the project. In opposition to the Keystone XL, an unlikely alliance has formed between mostly white rural landowners and Native Americans. Calling themselves the Cowboy Indian Alliance, or CIA, this group staged a wildly successful protest at the White House drawing thousands of concerned citizens from all over the country. Their slogan is "Reject and Protect": reject the Keystone XL Pipeline in favor of protecting the health of all present and future living communities.

Born and raised not far from the Chevron refinery in Richmond, INM-SF Bay's leader Pennie Opal Plant has a history of environmental and Native American activism going back thirty years. She is not enrolled in a tribe, but is Yaqui, Mexican, Choctaw, Cherokee, and European. After discovering the INM movement online, Opal Plant and her husband traveled to San Francisco's Canadian Consulate to express solidarity with their First Nation sisters and brothers. The leader described how she took initiative in connecting with the Forward on Climate action in San Francisco, empowering INM-SF Bay to head off the demonstration with a round dance and prayer. "We were very well received and after that became connected with activists who later formed The Sunflower Alliance, of which I am a member," she said. Since then, INM-SF Bay has crafted "many actions including several at the Chevron refinery, Kinder Morgan in Richmond, and the Canadian Consulate."

INM-SF Bay's momentum seems to be increasing rapidly. Beyond being invited to Earth Day San Francisco for the last two consecutive years, the group was privileged to lead a 2,600-strong march from Richmond Station to the Chevron Refinery on the anniversary of that facility's 2012 explosion.

The purpose of INM-SF Bay is to serve as an affinity group of Native Americans and allies united in mutual aid. To learn more about INM-SF Bay, visit its Facebook page. To get involved with the organization and help ensure the future for coming generations, all are invited to join the group at any of their actions.

All are encouraged to join in the next Refinery Corridor Healing Walk from Martinez to Benicia. For more information, call 510-619-8279 or visit the website at ConnectTheDotsHealingJourneys.org

Colin Murphy, Oakland

Readers!

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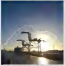

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ENDORSEMENTS

THE EXPRESS' ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE JUNE 3 PRIMARY

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Governor: No endorsement
Lieutenant Governor: Gavin Newsom
Secretary of State: Derek Cressman
Controller: John Pérez and Betty Yee
Treasurer: John Chiang
Attorney General: Kamala Harris

Tim Sbranti

Insurance Commissioner: Dave Jones
Superintendent of Schools: Tom Torlakson
Board of Equalization Second District: Fiona Ma
10th State Senate District: No endorsement
15th Assembly District: Elizabeth Echols and Tony Thurmond
16th Assembly District: Tim Sbranti
18th Assembly District: Rob Bonta
20th Assembly District: Bill Quirk

Congress

11th District: Mark DeSaulnier
13th District: Barbara Lee
15th District: Ellen Corbett
17th District: Mike Honda

Alameda County

Superintendent of Schools: Naomi Eason
Auditor/Controller: Steve Manning

Hayward

Mayor: No endorsement
City Council (vote for two): Ryan "Rocky" Fernandez and Sara Lamnin

Local Measures

Measure AA (Alameda County): Yes
Measure C (Hayward): Yes
Measure H (Piedmont Unified): Yes

State Propositions

Prop 41: Yes
Prop 42: Yes

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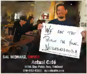
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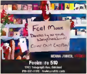
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SEVEN DAYS

THERE'S NO REASON NOW TO OPPOSE A BAN ON FRACKING

There is not going to be an oil boom in California's near future, so there's no need to put the environment and our health in harm's way

By Robert Gammon

For the past few years, Governor Jerry Brown and many state legislators, especially those from the oil-rich Central Valley, have opposed calls to ban fracking in California. They've bought into the industry argument that a moratorium on fracking would mean that California would miss out on the oil and gas boom sweeping the nation, and thus would hamper the state's economic recovery. Oil and natural gas interests also backed up their argument with hefty campaign donations to lawmakers. In fact, Brown accepted $2.49 million in donations from oil and natural gas interests prior to signing legislation last year that requires the state to approve all fracking permit requests.

But a stunning announcement made last week by federal energy officials has completely undercut the oil and natural gas industry's argument for fracking in California. The US Energy Information Administration concluded that the state is going to miss out on the oil and gas boom anyway, even if it fully green-light fracking. Why? It turns out the previous estimates of the amount of oil that can be extracted in the state via fracking were wildly optimistic. The feds said that instead of 13.7 billion barrels of oil, California's Monterey Shale deposit actually only has about 600 million barrels of oil that can be removed from the ground using hydraulic fracturing or acidization methods. That's a 96 percent reduction.

It's not that the oil suddenly disappeared — it's still there, but it can't be removed from the ground. Unlike the relatively stable shale oil fields of North Dakota and Texas, the Monterey Shale has been folded and shattered by seismic activity, making the oil it contains inaccessible — at least by current technology.

In other words, there's not going to be a giant oil boom in California's near future, and the state, as a result, is not going to add 2.8 million new industry jobs or see its tax revenue increase by $24.6 billion annually as oil and gas interests had claimed. In fact, there's likely not going to be a boom at all. And so, if the state were to enact a ban on fracking now, it probably would have little to no impact on California's economy. As such, there's no reason for the governor and lawmakers to continue to back a controversial practice that involves shooting massive amounts of water and toxic chemicals deep into the earth and has been linked to groundwater and air pollution and to earthquakes.

Perhaps that's why the state Senate's Appropriations Committee approved SB 1132 late last week — after the feds released their revised estimate on the Monterey Shale. The bill would implement a ban on fracking while state officials complete a comprehensive environmental review of the fossil-fuel extraction method. The legislation is now headed for a full vote by the state Senate. And there's no good reason for the legislature or the governor to now oppose it.

Indeed, they should have enacted a fracking ban in 2013. It was already clear last year that the extreme environmental hazards caused by fracking simply aren't worth the risks — even considering the potential boost to the state's economy, which still seemed possible last year. Voters have realized this fact. Last week (before the feds released their revised estimate) a poll showed that a supermajority of state residents — 68 percent — said they support a fracking moratorium. Even a majority of Republican voters — 51 percent — expressed support for a temporary ban.

In short, it's long past time for state lawmakers and the governor to catch up to the general public. California doesn't need to be fracked.

Three-Dot Roundup

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) said last week that Governor Brown's administration is underestimating the costs of the Medi-Cal expansion under Obamacare by about $300 million, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. The LAO had previously concluded that the governor had seriously underestimated tax revenues as well — by about $2.5 billion. The LAO came to a similar conclusion last year — and was proven right, while the governor's projections turned out to be wrong. The LAO's forecasts mean that the state has about $2.8 billion more funds available in its budget next year than the governor had projected. ... Yet even with the extra funds available, the state Senate shelved a plan last week that sought to provide health insurance to undocumented immigrants in California, when lawmakers balked at the estimated $400 million price tag of implementing SB 1005. Undocumented immigrants are not eligible to enroll in Obamacare, and represent the last large section of the population that remains uninsured. As a result, undocumented immigrants typically end up in emergency rooms when they're injured or seriously ill. ... Fueled by the real estate boom, the City of Oakland's tax revenues are about $30 million higher than expected, the *Oakland Tribune* reported. Mayor Jean Quan is proposing to use the extra funds to pay for two more police academies in the next year in an effort to boost the size of the city's police force to more than seven hundred officers. Quan also is proposing to pay for sewer projects, a jobs resource center, and technology improvements — and she wants to increase the city's rainy-day reserve fund. ... Lift Up Oakland, a union-backed initiative, turned in a petition with more than 33,000 signatures to raise the minimum wage in the city to $12.25 an hour next year via a November ballot measure. ... And the state Senate unanimously passed an ethics reform bill that bans lawmakers from accepting gifts from lobbyists and reduces the cap on any gift received from $440 to $200. ●

Seven Days is culled from our blog of the same name.

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

The East Bay MUD board voted to oppose wild and scenic status for the Mokelumne. Robert Gammon/File photo

ECO WATCH

EBMUD MAY BLOCK WILD AND SCENIC STATUS FOR THE MOKELUMNE

The public agency is pushing for a poison pill that could derail environmental protections for our water supply

By Robert Gammon

East Bay residents drink some of the cleanest water in the nation — so clean, in fact, that if you live in Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, or Richmond, there's no need to ever run your tap water through a filter or buy water in a bottle. The reason? Our drinking water comes from the pristine Mokelumne River in the Sierra foothills. And over the years, environmental groups have been working to further safeguard the Mokelumne by establishing stricter environmental protections for the river. Specifically, they've been trying to pass legislation in Sacramento that would declare a stretch of the Mokelumne — just above where our water comes from — as "wild and scenic." Such a designation would ensure that this section of the river receives full protection under state law.

Right now, environmental groups are closer than ever to their goal. The state Senate is considering wild and scenic legislation for the Mokelumne in a bill — SB 1199 — authored by Democrat Loni Hancock of Berkeley. Hancock is being termed out of office this year, and so passage of SB 1199 would burnish her already sterling environmental legacy.

But Hancock's bill is now facing an unlikely foe. Earlier this month, the East Bay Municipal Utility District's board of directors voted to oppose SB 1199 unless Hancock agrees to amend the bill. One of the reasons for the board's opposition is purely technical. The wild and scenic designation extends into a section of the Pardee Reservoir, which is where our freshwater supply is stored.

Environmental groups and Hancock's office say they have no objections to amending the bill to change the wild and scenic boundary line to conform with East Bay MUD's specifications, and that they had never intended to infringe on the reservoir. In fact, a representative from the senator's office told me late last week that they had already devised new language for the bill and would officially amend the legislation this week.

However, the senator does not know what to do about the board's second stated reason for opposing the bill — an objection that environmentalists say amounts to a poison pill. In a May 15 letter to the senator, East Bay MUD officials explained that the board majority wants a "stakeholder process," in which public agencies surrounding the Mokelumne would have a say in whether the wild and scenic designation goes forward. The problem? This area of California, which is commonly known within East Bay MUD as the "upcountry" region, is dominated by conservative Republicans who, as a rule, tend to oppose all environmental regulations. In fact, all but one of the public agencies in the upcountry area have already voted to oppose the wild and scenic designation. The agencies are also concerned that SB 1199 would block them from building new dams on tributaries to the Mokelumne.

"It sounds to me like they want us all to achieve consensus" in favor of SB 1199, Chris Wright, a member of the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors, said of East Bay MUD board members. "But that's never going to happen." Calaveras County is the lone agency that has voted to support Hancock's bill. The county borders the Mokelumne to the north, and its economy is dependent on those who come to the area to hike, kayak, fish, swim, and go rafting — and so would benefit from extra protections on the river. Wright is an environmentalist who used to be the executive director of the Foothill Conservancy, a group that has led the wild and scenic campaign.

The 4-2-1 opposition vote by the East Bay MUD board on May 13 also represented a striking turnaround. A few years ago, the board voted unanimously to support wild and scenic status for the Mokelumne. But this year, the only board members who voted to support SB 1199 were Doug Linney, who represents Alameda and portions of Oakland and San Leandro; Andy Katz, who represents North Oakland and Berkeley; and Lesa McIntosh, who represents portions of Contra Costa County, including Richmond. "I find it somewhat embarrassing that four years ago that this board voted unanimously for wild and scenic protection, but then the first time [Hancock] came in front of us with an actual bill, we opposed it," Linney said in an interview late last week.

So what changed in four years? Back then, a majority of East Bay MUD board members, who represent hot and dry areas of the East Bay that use more freshwater, were still pushing to build a larger dam on the Mokelumne, so that the agency could expand Pardee Reservoir. Those board members — Katy Foulkes, William Patterson, John Coleman, and Frank Mellon — supported a wild and scenic designation for a small section of the Mokelumne as long as they could get their dam, too, and the extra freshwater that would come with it.

But environmental groups, led by the Foothill Conservancy, strongly opposed the new dam proposal because it would have destroyed a scenic one-mile section of the Mokelumne. They filed a lawsuit to stop it, and they won in 2011 when a judge ruled that East Bay MUD had failed to adequately examine an alternative proposal: partnering with the Contra Costa Water District on its plan to expand Los Vaqueros Reservoir in the East Bay. That proposal is more environmentally friendly because it does not involve ruining a section of pristine river. Ultimately, the East Bay MUD board majority voted to pursue the partnership with the Contra Costa Water District and tabled its plan for the new dam on the Mokelumne.

But some environmentalists quietly believe that the board majority and key East Bay MUD staffers have not completely given up on the Mokelumne dam idea — and that's why they now oppose SB 1199 and included the poison pill "stakeholder process" requirement. The wild and scenic designation boundary line in Hancock's bill includes a section of the river that would have been destroyed by the new dam and expanded reservoir. And so passage of SB 1199 would likely be the final nail in the coffin for the Mokelumne dam idea.

East Bay MUD spokesperson Abby Figueroa and legislative manager Marlaigne Dumaine, who is the district's point person on the legislation, were on vacation and not available for comment late last week about SB 1199. The agency's letter to Hancock does not mention the Mokelumne dam; rather, it emphasizes the importance that East Bay MUD places on maintaining its "relationships" with its upcountry "partners," in explaining the need for a stakeholder process.

This rationale, however, also represents a stark turnaround for East Bay MUD. Four years ago, when the agency and the board majority were plowing forward with the dam proposal, they completely ignored their upcountry brethren. Back then, most of the public agencies whose jurisdictions touch the Mokelumne opposed the dam proposal, mostly because they were concerned about the expanded reservoir's potential impact on their water rights. Yet, the board majority voted to go forward with the dam proposal anyway. ●

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THE UGLY CAMPAIGN

The battle for the East Bay's 10th state Senate district maybe the most negative local contest in recent memory

By Steven Tavares

The most important event in one of this year's most vicious primary races in the state did not occur in 2014 but on October 25 2011. That was the day when then Assemblymember Mary Hayashi was arrested outside of Neiman Marcus in San Francisco with three pieces of shoplifted clothing worth $2,450. Hayashi eventually pleaded no contest to criminal charges and her probation is nearing an end, but she's still carrying the baggage of that day and the incident may ultimately decide whether she will win a spot in the top two among five candidates running for the East Bay's 10th state Senate district in the June 3 primary.

In 2012 Hayashi launched a surprising run for Alameda County supervisor just months after the shoplifting incident and one of the main questions of that campaign centered on whether Union City Councilmember Richard Valle would use the scandal as a hammer against her. Valle never really did, and then cruised to victory.

For a brief period earlier this year, it appeared as if state Assemblymember Bob Wieckowski would follow Valle's strategy. At an endorsement meeting for the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus last month, an audience member asked Wieckowski for his opinion about a string of high-profile Asian American legislators who recently had been embroiled in legal problems. Wieckowski paused as Hayashi sat with a strained expression about five feet away and said, "Well, I think it's just [state Senator] Leland Yee. I don't know of any others."

But then just two weeks later Wieckowski did an about face, and his campaign released a scathing attack on Hayashi, unveiling a website called MugShotMary.com. In addition to posting the jail photograph of a disheveled Hayashi taken just after her arrest, the site detailed the chain of events that led to her arrest and her repeated refusal to take full responsibility for the 2011 incident.

Less than a week later Hayashi hit back with her own attack website, BobProtectedRapists.com, which slams Wieckowski for registering the only vote in the entire Legislature in 2012 against a bill that sought to prevent those who had been convicted of domestic violence against a spouse from later receiving alimony or other benefits from the victim. (Wieckowski later switched his vote and supported the legislation before Governor Jerry Brown signed it.)

Then as the two Democratic campaigns jawed at each other in the media, Wieckowski blanketed the district from Castro Valley to Santa Clara, with ads and mailers featuring Hayashi's mugshot. Hayashi returned fire by bestowing another moniker on Wieckowski, this time referring to him in the press and in mailers as "Bob the Bully."

Mary Hayashi

Bob Wieckowski

Yet, for all the money spent on media buys, the release by a Democratic Party operative of surveillance footage of Hayashi inspecting merchandise at Neiman Marcus on that fateful day may turn out to be the hardest hit of all. Mark Goodwin, Wieckowski's campaign manager said that an edited clip of the surveillance footage posted on the campaign's website is attracting huge traffic. He also said he does not think that voters will take offense to their all-out negative attack ad strategy against Hayashi. "I think all voters ... take it serious when a legislator while serving in the Assembly commits a crime," he said.

Hayashi's campaign representatives did not return phone calls seeking comment for this report.

Hayashi and Wieckowski are both liberals, although Hayashi may be slightly more to the left because of her long history of advocacy for improving health care for low-income residents. Last year both candidates supported the striking BART workers. And at a forum last month, Hayashi said that the state's public-employee pension problems are not as bad as centrists and conservatives contend. As for Wieckowski, he drew intense criticism from the right for sponsoring a bill that would have allowed undocumented immigrants to serve on juries. Governor Brown later vetoed that bill.

While Hayashi and Wieckowski have been beating each other to a pulp on the campaign trail, a previously unknown Republican candidate from Santa Clara County could be poised to sneak into the top two on June 3. Peter Kuo said he almost quit the race in late December after receiving little attention and almost no funding. However Kuo's luck quickly changed when a Democratic-backed constitutional amendment was introduced in the legislature earlier this year. Known as SCA 5, the legislation sought to overturn Proposition 209 which was approved by voters in 1996 and ended affirmative action for admission to state universities and for state contracts. SCA-5 immediately ignited strong opposition in the Asian American community from parents who feared that the reinstatement of affirmative action for African American and Latino students would make it tougher for high performing Asian American students to gain acceptance to UC campuses. The proposed legislation not only stoked a passion in Kuo but also in the district's large Asian American community. "If you work hard and follow the rules, you will have the American Dream," Kuo said during a forum last month in Fremont.

Under pressure from Asian-American legislators, the Democratic leadership in the Assembly put the bill on hold. By March, Kuo's ethnic background — he was born in Taiwan and immigrated to the Bay Area at the age of fourteen — and his rising status in the polls and among campaign donors attracted the attention of state Republican Party leaders, who believe SCA 5 has the potential to energize a large portion of the district's electorate to vote for Kuo, since both Wieckowski and Hayashi support affirmative action. Although Kuo had been virtually unknown in Alameda County, some political observers believe he now has a better-than-even shot at placing in the top two, possibly at the expense of Hayashi.

Two weeks ago, when the level of vitriol between Hayashi and Wieckowski was peaking, Kuo shrewdly pleaded for comity and a return to the issues facing the 10th District. "What good is it doing?" Kuo's campaign said of discord between his Democratic opponents. "California's problems won't be solved with dirty politics but with real discussions, thoughtful strategies, and bold action."

> "I THINK ALL VOTERS ... TAKE SERIOUSLY WHEN A LEGISLATOR, WHILE SERVING IN THE ASSEMBLY, COMMITS A CRIME," SAID MARK GOODWIN, WIECKOWSKI'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER.

While a majority of the candidates are either slinging mud or focusing on wedge issues, the race's two other participants, former East Bay Assemblymember Audie Bock and Fremont Planning Commissioner Roman Reed have instead focused on specific causes. In a race almost devoid of issues directly facing the residents of the district, Bock has made the Hayward Russell City Energy Center a key focus of her campaign. The natural gas-fired plant located on the Hayward Shoreline was already an unpopular project even before the Bay Area Air Quality Management District recently charged the plant, which came online last fall, with releasing ten times the amount of allowable water particulate into the air. "We are the Environmental Protection Agency's guinea pig," Bock declared at the Fremont forum, referring to the lack of government regulatory oversight of the facility.

Reed, who was paralyzed nearly twenty years ago while playing football at Chabot College in Hayward, said the injury forced him to change his focus in life. He later graduated from UC Berkeley and became a national leader in stem cell research. Much of his platform has revolved around procuring additional state and federal funding for research. An early impetus for his candidacy, Reed said, was Wieckowski's inability to pass a $1 million funding bill for stem cell research at UC Irvine. Wieckowski carried stem cell legislation on three occasions in recent years, but narrowly failed each time, said Reed. "We can't afford to wait around while there are lives to be saved," he said. ■

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Attorney General Harris said the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force was "designed to protect innocent homeowners and to bring justice to those who would defraud them."

The Strike Force That Never Struck

Despite pledging to crack down on foreclosure scam artists three years ago, Attorney General Kamala Harris has allowed an industry of fraud to flourish.

By Darwin BondGraham

One giant fraud spawns ten thousand smaller frauds — that was one of the major lessons of the foreclosure crisis. A relatively small number of mortgage lenders issued millions of toxic home loans in the 2000s, often misrepresenting the terms to borrowers or predatorily targeting low-income homeowners, Latinos, African Americans, immigrants, and the elderly with financial products that were practically designed to fail. Then when the crash came in 2008, thousands of smaller fraudsters crawled out from under their rocks to feed off the carnage caused by the collapse of the mortgage market.

Calling themselves "foreclosure consultants," this army of rip-off artists set up on the internet and plastered local newspapers, especially ethnic media, with advertisements, claiming that "we can stop your foreclosure." Radio ads broadcasted on English- and Spanish-language stations promised to "halt foreclosure." Scam artists pumped their message through late-night TV: "Obtain a loan modification to stay in your house." Sometimes scammers posed as representatives of federal housing programs, emblazoning HUD and Treasury Department seals on their deceptive websites, mailers, and brochures. One company even used a robocall system programmed with President Obama's voice announcing a phony mortgage "rescue" plan.

Desperate homeowners sailed toward these siren songs. The typical victim handed over thousands of dollars for services that were never rendered or for services that could never stop a foreclosure. Fake and crooked lawyers filed faux lawsuits, claiming they could slow down foreclosure sales. Unlicensed brokers pretended to negotiate new loans, collecting big upfront fees, but then doing little or no work. Some scammers were small fries, taking advantage of just a few distressed borrowers. Bigger sharks defrauded dozens, even hundreds of borrowers out of millions of dollars. There were literally thousands of rip-off operations, so many that no one — not any state or federal agency or law enforcement authority — has tallied a sound estimate. And they're still a problem. They're still preying on distressed homeowners who were left high and dry by the federal economic bailout, which did little or nothing to alleviate the average American's debt woes.

The Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law is still receiving between five hundred and eight hundred complaints a month from homeowners throughout the nation about foreclosure rescue scams. The committee's representatives enter the complaints into a database that feeds into a larger federal consumer complaints repository. "California leads the way," said Michael Tanglis, an analyst with the committee. According to Tanglis, homeowners nationwide have made more than 13,000 complaints against scam operations based in California since 2010. "California also leads the way with 6,000 complaints reported by in-state homeowners," Tanglis added.

"It's been a massive problem, and I suspect it still is," said Maeve Elise Brown, executive director of Housing and Economic Rights Advocates, a nonprofit that gives free legal assistance to homeowners in distress. "Every other client we deal with has paid money to at least one scam."

"California, tragically, is the epicenter for the loan modification frauds," said Joseph Dunn, CEO of the California State Bar. The state bar found it necessary to carry out a sweeping disciplinary campaign against lawyers who loaned their names and credentials to foreclosure rescue scams. It's a record of discipline that gives a sense of how vast the mortgage consultant problem has been: From February 2009 to October 2013, the state bar received 13,200 complaints against attorneys regarding mortgage loan modifications. The Office of Chief Trial Counsel, the state bar's enforcement arm, has pursued disciplinary charges in 1,654 cases of loan modification fraud, involving 211 licensed California attorneys. As a result, the state bar has disbarred 57 attorneys. Cases against another 50 attorneys are pending before the State Bar Court, and another 86 attorneys are currently under investigation.

But the cases brought by the state bar represent just a fraction of California-based foreclosure rescue operations, many of which did not involve lawyers. "When there's money to be had, there's gonna be a constant flow of fraudsters," said Dunn.

The problem was so bad that, in 2011, when Kamala Harris took over the California Attorney General's Office, she announced the creation of a statewide task force to tackle mortgage fraud. A big focus of the task force was supposed to be going after rescue scam artists. At a May 23 press conference that year, Harris called mortgage fraud a "top priority" for her team.

"The California Department of Justice received thousands of complaints last year alone — all related to foreclosure scams, mortgage fraud, and mortgage servicing scams," said Harris. "2.2 million Californians owe more than their home is worth. Their distress and vulnerability is a very rich opportunity for predators."

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Harris described the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force as a crack division in the state DOJ "designed to protect innocent homeowners and to bring to justice those who would defraud them."

"As California's real estate boom set a trend for the rest of the nation, so too will our policing of its dark side," Harris continued. Harris initially assigned 25 DOJ lawyers and investigators to the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force, which had had a clear mandate to aggressively stamp out foreclosure fraud, and an annual budget of $2.45 million in fiscal year 2011-12, and $2.63 million in 2012-13, according to public records.

And yet three years after the establishment of the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force, Harris' office has prosecuted only ten cases of foreclosure consultant fraud. Despite the fact that California was the hardest hit state by foreclosure rescue scams, and that it is the home base for more scam artists than any other state, Harris' strike force has prosecuted fewer foreclosure consultant fraud cases than attorneys general in numerous other states. Moreover, as Harris' office has failed to act, attorneys general in other states have turned their sights on California, targeting rip-off artists who are based here and have scammed homeowners elsewhere in the country.

Indeed, interviews and public records obtained from Harris' office reveal a portrait of a well-funded and robustly staffed strike force that appears to have never really struck a significant blow against the foreclosure rescue scam industry in California. Instead, the job of prosecuting foreclosure consultants in the state has fallen on attorneys general from other states, private attorneys (often working pro bono), and local county district attorneys in California who have fewer resources and staff to investigate and litigate.

At the same time, foreclosure consultants have largely ignored and brazenly violated laws put in place by former Attorney General Jerry Brown that were supposed to undermine the ability of foreclosure rescue scammers to operate. California, as a result, is not only the base of operation for countless fraudsters, but also a favorite hunting ground for those who continue to prey on desperate homeowners.

It's not hard to find a shady company that will offer to modify your mortgage for a hefty price, or provide some other foreclosure consulting service that is "guaranteed" to keep you in your house. Recently, I went to Los Angeles to try to help my fictitious elderly mother avoid foreclosure on the equally fictitious family home. I found an endless list of companies on the internet eager to "help." After a little research, and after emailing and chatting with them on the phone, it was clear that some are legitimate businesses and law firms that haven't broken any laws, even if the services they're offering are pretty much worthless.

But then there are companies like Direct Loan Counseling. I found Direct Loan Counseling after about ten minutes of searching the internet and clicking on ads thrown at me by Google's dangerously undiscriminating algorithms. I called Direct Loan Counseling's 877 number and spoke with someone who identified himself as Alan Rose. He claimed to be the supervisor of the company's HAMP program. HAMP, the Home Affordable Modification Program, is a government-sponsored loan modification program that most of the big banks participate in. HAMP provides borrowers with reductions in their principal and interest payments.

"It's a good thing it's with Bank of America," Rose assured me about my mother's defaulted mortgage loan, which I had explained to him was months in arrears. Bank of America, I told him, is the lender and servicer, and the bank's representatives weren't responding to my calls. I told Rose I was worried they'd foreclose. "We have a good relationship with them," he claimed about Bank of America.

Rose said that Direct Loan Counseling could quickly obtain a loan modification that would reduce the interest rate on my mother's mortgage to 2 to 3 percent a year, lowering the monthly bill by thousands of dollars. He was very reassuring: "We have attorneys and processors to take care of this. It only takes about two weeks from when we get the application back from you."

Rose encouraged me to fill out Direct Loan Counseling's fourteen-page "request for mortgage assistance form," which he promptly emailed to me. The document itself is filled with all sorts official-looking forms

California law requires foreclosure consultants to register with the state and post a $100,000 bond

California residents who were victimized by foreclosure have met repeatedly with Harris and her staff.

and scraps of information, including various disclosures regarding household income, liens, and legal judgments. The reassuring seal of the Treasury Department, the sponsor of the HAMP program, appeared on page seven, as did the telephone number for the HAMP "Homeowners Hotline."

I decided to call the HAMP hotline and ask about Direct Loan Counseling. "I do not believe this firm is directly affiliated with the HAMP program," responded Josh Fuhrman, a senior vice president of the Homeownership Preservation Foundation, the nonprofit that operates the HAMP program hotline.

I also called Bank of America to check on Rose's claim about Direct Loan Counseling having a "good relationship" with the bank. "Bank of America does not have special relationships with any for-profit counseling companies," said Rick Simon, a spokesperson for Bank of America. "No one should believe that they need to pay for this type of assistance or that they will receive special treatment if they do so."

Direct Loan Counseling doesn't appear to be a legal corporation allowed to do business in California. I found no record of the company having registered with the California Secretary of State as required by law. Public records also indicate that Direct Loan Counseling isn't licensed to do business in the City of Los Angeles, despite the fact that it rents an office in Tower One of the Westwood Gateway building at 11111 Santa Monica Boulevard. In addition, no one has ever registered Direct Loan Counseling as a fictitious business name in Los Angeles County, according to the LA Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's Office.

Direct Loan Counseling's website includes no identifying information, no office address, and no information about who its executives and board members might be. Alan Rose, if that's his real name, is not licensed by the California Bureau of Real Estate (BRE) to act as a real estate broker, a requirement for anyone advertising and assisting homeowners with loan modifications. And a search for Direct Loan Counseling in the BRE's company license database also turned up no results.

There are only a few clues about who is behind Direct Loan Counseling. An Irene Smith registered Direct Loan Counseling's website domain name in May 2013. In 2011, someone also named Irene Smith registered two fictitious business names with the County of Los Angeles — Direct Mortgage Counseling and Mortgage Counseling Center. The mail drop Irene Smith used for Direct Mortgage Counseling was a second-floor office above a Thai restaurant and a wig shop just a few blocks away from Direct Loan Counseling's current office on Santa Monica Boulevard.

Three recent consumer complaints against Direct Loan Counseling, filed with the Business Consumer Alliance, a nonprofit watchdog, identified a Charles Smith as the company's primary representative, along with Irene Smith, and several other employees. The complaints allege that the Smiths and Rose broke several state laws and stole thousands of dollars from homeowners in distress.

BUT JUST LIKE HUNDREDS OF OTHER UNLICENSED AND UNREGISTERED FORECLOSURE CONSULTANTS, NEITHER IRENE NOR CHARLES SMITH APPEARS TO HAVE EVER BEEN PROSECUTED BY ANY CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

In February 2013, Irene and Charles Smith were busted by the California Department of Real Estate for operating their previous company, Direct Mortgage Counseling, in violation of state law. In a published Desist and Refrain Order, Bureau of Real Estate Commissioner Wayne Bell cited the Smiths for posing as real estate brokers (neither is licensed) and for collecting advanced fees in the performance of loan modification services, a direct violation of California's foreclosure consultant law punishable by a fine of $10,000 and up to a year in jail.

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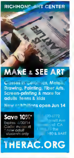
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ComingofAge.org/BayArea/Explore-Your-Future

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NORML.org

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GirlsInc-Alameda.org

This listing is sponsored by The Star on Grand and Earth Circles Counseling Center

Asian Art Museum

...a diverse global audience in discovering the distinctive materials, aesthetics and intellectual achievements of Asian art and cultures, and to serve as a bridge of understanding between Asia and the United States and between the diverse cultures of Asia.

AsianArt.org

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Bay Area Girls Rock Camp

We empower girls through music, providing an environment that fosters self-confidence, creativity and teamwork. BAGRC challenges gender stereotypes, encourages collaboration, and tolerance among peers.

BayAreaGirlsRockCamp.org

Museum of Children's Art

MOCHA is committed to providing quality hands-on art experiences for children and their families, particularly in at-risk communities. We provide training and tools for educators, parents and youth development professionals.

MOCHA.org

Wardrobe for Opportunity

(WFO) empowers low-income individuals by acquiring interview skills, professional clothing and the career support needed to become economically self-sufficient. WFO has served nearly 24,000 individuals who face significant barriers.

Wardrobe.org

Autism Speaks

We are the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization, dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for their needs.

AutismSpeaks.org

This listing is sponsored by Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto

Oakland Grown

We support and advocate for the growth and development of local, independent businesses and artists; encourage local purchasing by residents, businesses, and visitors; and create opportunities for networking and sharing.

OaklandGrown.org

Berkeley Free Clinic

We were founded as a "street medicine" clinic that quickly has served countless thousands in a variety of ways during its 40-year history. Fees have never been charged for any services, materials, medications or supplies provided.

BerkeleyFreeClinic.org

Marine Mammal Center

We are a veterinary research hospital and educational center dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of ill and injured marine mammals – primarily elephant seals, harbor seals, and California sea lions. Since 1975, we've rescued and treated more than 18,000 marine mammals.

MarineMammalCenter.org

Operation Dignity

We are veteran run, service-enriched provider serving the homeless veterans and displaced populations of Alameda County. Our goal is to provide safe housing, nutritious meals, and a full array of support so they can begin their rehabilitation process.

OperationDignity.org

This listing is sponsored by Northside Health Center

East Bay Food Not Bombs

We serve free meals at People's Park six times a week, we give away our surplus food and participate in the regular demonstrations at People's Park in Oakland. We work in solidarity with other progressive groups at countless demonstrations, cultural events and gatherings over the years.

EBFNB.org

This listing is sponsored by Ashkenaz Music & Dance Center

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RECORD OF DECISION NOW AVAILABLE FOR OPERABLE UNIT 2C (IR SITES 5, 10, AND 12)

Former Naval Air Station Alameda

The U.S. Navy, in coordination with state and federal regulatory agencies, has selected a final remedy for former Alameda Naval Air Station Installation Restoration (IR) Sites 5, 10, and 12. The Record of Decision for Operable Unit 2C documents that remedial action is required at IR Site 5 for soil, groundwater, and drain lines beneath Building 5. At IR Site 10, remedial action is required for drain lines beneath Building 400. No action is required for IR Site 12. Drain lines outside IR Sites 5 and 10 buildings will be addressed separately in the future.

The Record of Decision is available for public review at two locations:

Alameda Point
Information Repository
950 West Mall Square
Building 1, Room 240
Alameda, California 94501

Alameda Public Library
1550 Oak Street
Alameda, California 94501
(510) 747-7777

[illegible] J. Robinson, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, BRAC Program Management Office West, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900, San Diego, California 92108, derek.j.robinson1@navy.mil, (619) 532-0951

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night, unlicensed and unregistered foreclosure consultants identified by the Bureau of Real Estate, neither Irene nor Charles Smith appears to have ever been prosecuted by any California law enforcement agency for running Direct Mortgage Counseling. Shortly after the BRE issued its order to the Smiths, they closed down Direct Mortgage Counseling, and are now doing business as Direct Loan Counseling.

California law requires foreclosure consultants to register with the state Department of Justice, and to post a $100,000 bond as a precondition of doing business. The law was designed to drive most foreclosure consultants out of business, and to make it easier for authorities and consumers to spot frauds. But Direct Loan Counseling isn't registered with the DOJ and has never posted a bond to act as a foreclosure consultant.

Neither have a half-dozen other foreclosure consultants I called up and received offers from during the past few weeks. Several of these companies and the people I spoke with were also previously cited by the California Bureau of Real Estate for breaking various state laws in pursuit of their fraudulent schemes.

Harris too posts photos on the AG's website of her meeting with foreclosure victims.

During the depths of the foreclosure crisis, Ofra Pleban was the staff attorney of Central California Legal Services, a nonprofit legal aid group serving Fresno.

"It's like a mushroom after the rain," she said of foreclosure rescue scam operations in the Central Valley. "You close one down, another opens, pops up."

As if counseling homeowners on how to navigate the Kafkaesque banking negotiation system wasn't difficult enough, Pleban found herself forced to investigate and sue foreclosure consultant scammers who preyed on the Central Valley's working-class and heavily Latino communities. "We were involved in litigation with one of the most prolific loan modification scammers in Fresno County who defrauded hundreds of homeowners of thousands of dollars each, with promises to obtain for them a loan modification," she said.

"Unfortunately, despite the extensive evidence against this entity [Legal Foreclosure Services] and its operators, and the scope of their activities in Fresno and Merced counties, law enforcement, including the District Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office, and the US Attorney's Office, failed to prosecute."

So why did some local district attorneys in the Central Valley fail to prosecute some of the most egregious foreclosure rescue scammers?

"Locals, of course, claim limited resources and the need to allocate, or prioritize them," said William Krieg, a private attorney in Fresno. Krieg is suing multiple foreclosure consultant companies and law offices for fraud, but few private attorneys are following his lead. "You might get an injunction and they close, but then there's no assets to collect," explained Pleban, referring to the problems of going after foreclosure rescue fraudsters. "It's not that easy for the private bar to prosecute these cases."

And what about Attorney General Harris too? "Generally, I am not aware of California Attorney General efforts in the Central Valley, or elsewhere, to actively prosecute these scams," Krieg said. "More often this is left to local the district attorney or to the California Bureau of Real Estate to seek real estate license revocations."

This patchwork system of prosecution has numerous drawbacks. "One problem for local district attorneys," explained Krieg, "is that scammers are often located out of state, or out of county and the district attorney defers to the attorney general or must join with other district attorneys if the problem is extensive enough. "Our local DA has confirmed the very limited resources available for this."

Official budget records show that the Fresno County District Attorney's Office had only one attorney and one investigator in its Real Estate Fraud Unit during 2010 and 2011, probably the most active years for foreclosure consultant scams in an area that was hit especially hard by the foreclosure crisis. And like in other real estate fraud units in county district attorneys' offices, prosecuting foreclosure-related frauds was just one of the staffers' responsibilities in the Fresno County DA's office, meaning that only a fraction of their time was spent chasing foreclosure consultants.

Even the biggest counties in California appear to be struggling to muster the resources and staff necessary to investigate and prosecute even a fraction of the foreclosure consulting scams in their jurisdictions. "We have a couple [foreclosure consultant fraud] cases currently on our caseload," said David Lim, deputy district attorney in the Alameda County DA's Office. "From January 2011 through the end of April 2014, we filed 28 cases against 44 defendants," said Lim. "Of those 44 defendants, 10 cases against 13 defendants were charged with actions related to mortgage fraud consulting." Lim said the real estate fraud unit was staffed with two attorneys and two investigators from 2009 to 2013, but in September 2013 the office added one other prosecutor.

In Los Angeles, the state's largest county and probably second only to Orange County in terms of the number of foreclosure consultant scammers operating there, the district attorney's real estate fraud unit has seven prosecutors and six investigators. "We're more than treading water, but, of course, we could always use more bodies, more investigators," said David R. Lopez, deputy district attorney in charge of LA's real estate fraud unit. "There's voluminous records, and it's always the case that you have to figure out what happened, who did it, and since these go hand-in-hand with identify theft, no one is who they say they are," Lopez said of foreclosure rescue scammers. "The suspects and companies are shells.

"Last fiscal year we prosecuted 103 cases involving over 250 defendants and a total aggregate loss of over $80 million," added Lopez, who clarified that about one-third of these cases involved loan modification scams perpetrated by foreclosure consultants. In other words, LA County took down approximately thirty foreclosure consultants last year alone.

Peter Pierce, senior deputy district attorney in charge of Orange County's major fraud unit, said his office has 116 cases pending. "I would estimate that about 30 to 35 percent would be considered foreclosure rescue scams," said Pierce. The Orange County DA has done all this with a staff of just three prosecutors and three investigators.

Last Thursday the Orange County DA brought charges against a foreclosure consultant ring accused of stealing $13.5 million from 3,500 victims. The Orange County DA's Office believes that to be the largest-ever prosecution of a loan modification scam in the nation. The Newport Beach Police Department, the Orange County DA, the US Secret Service, and the state Franchise Tax Board conducted the investigation with help from the State Bar of California, the FBI, Huntington Beach police, Irvine police, and the California Bureau of Real Estate. Notably absent from the investigation was the California Attorney General's Office.

The San Diego County District Attorney's Office meanwhile, has a team of three attorneys, three investigators, two paralegals, and one secretary, said spokesperson Steve Walker. Between April 1, 2008 and April 30, 2014, the San Diego County District Attorney's Office filed criminal felony charges against 38 individual defendants, alleging violations of California's foreclosure consultant laws, Walker said. "We work very hard as an office to prevent and prosecute foreclosure fraud whenever we find it. However, like most district attorney offices, we are confronted with a substantial demand on our real estate resources, and we must prioritize matters."

In August 2009, then-Attorney General Jerry Brown issued a stern warning to the foreclosure consultant industry, publicly naming 386 companies and threatening them with prosecution unless they complied with the state's Mortgage Foreclosure Consultant Law. The law requires foreclosure consultants to register with the California Department of Justice and post a $100,000 bond. Brown also sent letters to 27 loan consultants, demanding that they substantiate advertising claims related to foreclosure rescue programs they were marketing via the internet and through direct mailings to Californians.

However, as of today only fourteen foreclosure consultants have bothered to register and post a bond with the DOJ, according to records obtained from the Attorney General's Office. And while most of the 27 companies to which Brown sent letters quickly went out of business, several remain open, marketing their foreclosure consulting services in apparent violation of state law.

For example, AvoidingForeclosure.com is still up and running. It's a trade name used by a Massachusetts company that claims to have developed a computer program to assist homeowners with loan modifications. The program "came from a man who spent his undergraduate years working in artificial intelligence programming with a Nobel prize winner," the company boasts on its website. AvoidingForeclosure.com allows California residents to apply for loan modifications, even though the company never registered with the DOJ or posted a bond as required.

Brown's letter to Fair Lender Audits, a company operated by a Farzan Hamzavi in San Diego, asked it to provide evidence for various claims it had made, including the following quote investigators copied from its website: "Our attorneys will contact your lender quickly (usually within one day) to let them know we will be negotiating a loan modification on your behalf. This will usually put a halt to any collection calls you are currently receiving from your lender." After Brown sent his letter to Fair Lender Audits, it quickly shut down.

HARRIS HAS FILED FEWER LAWSUITS THAN THE ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF SMALLER STATES WITH FEWER VICTIMS AND FAR FEWER OPERATIONS BASED IN THEIR JURISDICTIONS.

But when I typed the exact language from Fair Lender Audits' old website quoted above into a search engine, I was pointed to a different and new website (registered in February 2014) of a new company calling itself Loss Mitigation Servicing. This company's website includes, verbatim, all of the language on Hamzavi's Fair Lender Audits company website. It contains no identifying information about the company, but directs visitors to fill out an intake form for their loan modification. According to public records, Loss Mitigation Servicing isn't a registered corporation in California, and no such company is licensed by the Bureau of Real Estate, nor is registered or bonded with the DOJ to offer foreclosure consulting services.

Like mushrooms, they just keep popping up.

Since taking office in January 2011, Attorney General Kamala Harris has met repeatedly with homeowners facing foreclosure — and her office even features photos of these

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The Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County was formed in order to ensure equal participation in and support from the Democratic Party of Alameda County. It is the first ever chartered club focusing on Asian Pacific Americans in Alameda County.

APA Democratic Caucus endorses the following candidates for the June 3, 2014 Primary Election:

Congressional District 13
Barbara Lee

Congressional District 15
Ellen Corbett

Congressional District 17
Mike Honda

State Controller
Betty Yee

Assembly District 18
Rob Bonta

Assembly District 20
Bill Quirk

Alameda County
Board of Supervisors, District 2
Wilma Chan

Hayward City Council
Ryan "Rocky" Fernandez
Sara Lamnin

We would like to thank all of the candidates who participated in our endorsement process. The residents of Alameda County are very fortunate to have so many qualified Democratic candidates seeking to represent us. We have all benefited from the insights and thoughtful comments shared by Caucus members participating in our endorsement meeting and know that we are all better informed voters as a result.

For more information, visit: APACaucus.org

Paid for by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. P.O. Box 223 San Leandro, CA 94577-0022 Tax ID#202766727

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has aggressively targeted foreclosure fraudsters.

meetings on its website. But it's unclear what steps she has taken to follow through on the substantiation letters sent in 2009 by her predecessor. Representatives of Harris' office did not respond to multiple phone calls and emails requesting comment for this report.

It's also unclear why Harris' office has filed so few lawsuits against foreclosure consultants in recent years. Despite establishing the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force and setting a high profile agenda to crack down on foreclosure consultant fraud, Harris has filed fewer lawsuits than the attorneys general of smaller states with fewer victims and far fewer operations based in their jurisdictions. Harris has also filed fewer lawsuits against foreclosure consultants than many county district attorneys offices, despite the fact that there have been many large, sophisticated scam operations whose fraudulent crimes have crossed jurisdictional boundaries — cases that were ripe for the state's top prosecutor.

The Mortgage Fraud Strike Force within the DOJ has managed to file only ten lawsuits against foreclosure consultant scams since it was established three years ago, despite its seeming wealth of resources compared to county district attorneys offices. When Harris launched the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force, Michael Troncoso, a senior attorney at the DOJ, told the Bay Citizen news organization that it "will bring overwhelming focus and priority to [mortgage fraud] cases."

The DOJ's Mortgage Fraud Strike Force's employee roster, obtained via the California Public Records Act, currently lists 8 investigators and 18 attorneys among its total of 28 staff members. Attorneys on the DOJ's Mortgage Fraud Strike Force actually outnumber the combined attorneys in California's four largest district attorneys offices who focus on real estate fraud: Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, and Riverside counties.

The ten lawsuits filed against foreclosure consultants by Harris' strike force targeted foreclosure consultants operating in six counties. The largest amount of restitution a foreclosure consultant was ordered to pay was $475,000 by Joana Sosa, a Los Angeles grifter who extracted $950 up-front fees from numerous homeowners for whom she promised to obtain loan modifications. That was followed by Rudy Calderon, a Fresno area scam artist who defrauded multiple homeowners with a similar scam while even convincing a few to deed their property over to him. Calderon was ordered to pay $300,000 and was sentenced to four years and eight months in prison.

Some of the cases for which Harris's office has claimed credit, however, were actually spearheaded by other law enforcement agencies. For example, in response to a public records request, the AG's office listed defendant Alan David Tikal as being among the cases brought by the Mortgage Fraud Strike Force. Tikal, who called himself a "private, registered banker," ran a multi-state foreclosure rescue scam through an entity called the "Kicking Ass and Taking Names," KATN Trust, according to court documents. Tikal victimized more than 1,000 homeowners, mostly in California, stealing $3.1 million.

When Tikal was arrested in 2012, Harris said, "I am thankful for the fine work of the California Mortgage Fraud Strike Force and of our US Department of Justice colleagues in cracking this case." But Harris's office did not lead the investigation against Tikal and his associates; rather, the probe was led by the Special Inspector General for the federal government's Troubled Asset Relief Program and the US Attorney General, and they filed their case in federal court. The California DOJ's involvement was minimal.

Moreover, the biggest case of foreclosure rescue fraud investigated and prosecuted by the California Attorney General's office predates Harris' administration. Brown initiated an investigation of nine Los Angeles men who were running a loan modification scam out of "a Southern California boiler room, tricked out in high-roller style with a roulette wheel and other casino equipment," according to a press release from May 2010. Working through companies called Mason Capital Group LLC and Gretchen Fox and Associates, the men stole approximately $2.3 million from hundreds of victims in a sophisticated telemarketing operation. The investigation, arrests, and lawsuit filed by the AG's office predated Harris' Mortgage Fraud Strike Force.

Yet despite the lack of prosecutions by Harris' team of eighteen lawyers and eight investigators, complaints against foreclosure consultants continue to pour into her office. The Attorney General's office received 85 complaints alleging foreclosure rescue scams in September 2013, 92 more complaints in October, and 58 in November, records show. In January, Californians reported another 67 complaints about foreclosure rescue scams to the Attorney General's Office.

In fact, the volume and complexity of California's foreclosure rescue scams have become an immense and persistent problem for other states as well. And attorneys general in those states have been far more aggressive in prosecuting foreclosure scammers than Harris and her strike force — including targeting fraudsters in her jurisdiction.

"Between 2010 and 2013, we have filed 172 foreclosure consultant cases in state or federal court," said Jamie Barb, a spokesperson for the Indiana Attorney General's Office. "The vast majority of foreclosure rescue scams are located outside of Indiana," added Barb. California is a "very common" base of operation, he said.

One of the 34 lawsuits filed in 2010 by the Indiana Attorney General's Office against foreclosure consultants was aimed at a California scam operation called Hope4Homes. According to the lawsuit, Hope4Homes operated illegally in Indiana, reaching out to distressed homeowners via the internet. Mahan Abassi, a Beverly Hills lawyer who ran Hope4Homes, was found guilty of violating Indiana consumer protection laws that are very similar to those that are supposed to protect California homeowners from foreclosure rescue scams.

> **"IN TERMS OF STATES THAT HAVE THE MOST ACTIVITY TARGETING ILLINOIS HOMEOWNERS, WE HAVE SEEN THE BULK OF COMPLAINTS FROM CALIFORNIA OPERATIONS AND THEN FLORIDA," SAID ILLINOIS AG SPOKESPERSON NATALIE BAUER.**

In Illinois, Attorney General Lisa Madigan had already filed fifty lawsuits against foreclosure consultants by December of 2011 — making her office perhaps the most aggressive of any of the fifty states' attorneys general. "In terms of states that have the most activity targeting Illinois homeowners, we have seen the bulk of complaints from California operations and then Florida," said Illinois AG spokesperson Natalie Bauer. Among the enforcement actions taken by Madigan's office were cases against California-based companies like People's First Financial of San Diego, which was accused of ripping off Illinois residents of thousands of dollars each. Yet People's First Financial still has a website (registered through a private domain registration company to shield the owner's identity), and the company still claims to be in business in San Diego.

"I think that [Kamala Harris] has totally failed the homeowners," said Carlos Marroquin,

As attorney general, Jerry Brown championed tighter regulations of foreclosure consultants.

[illegible]

a housing rights activist in Los Angeles who lost his house to foreclosure several years ago. "Somebody changed the title to my house and defrauded me. I took my complaint to Brown and Harris, but they did nothing." Marroquin called Harris' Mortgage Fraud Strike Force a "public relations" effort.

Since losing his home, Marroquin has organized protests against what he believes is the widespread unwillingness of law enforcement officials to protect homeowners. "Harris needs to open her eyes. These scammers have popped up like popcorn. They're operating freely," he said. "Everybody I talk to, all the homeowners struggling to avoid foreclosure, they have been scammed by two or three people."

Ralph Kanz, an Oakland resident who was defrauded when a broker altered his loan documents, also thinks Harris has done a poor job cracking down on mortgage scams. But he said the problem goes much deeper, and that nearly every law enforcement office is failing the public. "With all these prosecutors, there's the *PR* part of what they do, and then there's the meat of what they actually do," Kanz said. "They were saying they were helping homeowners, but they were really focused on saving the banks."

Which brings us back to the giant fraud that spawned ten thousand smaller frauds. Grassroots activists like Kanz and Marroquin believe that it's ultimately the unwillingness of prosecutors to truly crack down on banks and the other powerful mortgage industry players that created the conditions for thousands of smaller scammers to operate in California. The proliferation of foreclosure rescue scams is a direct outcome of the fact that the banks were bailed out, and then never held accountable for their original crimes of predatory lending, nor for their ongoing violation of state and federal laws meant to protect borrowers. For example, by routinely violating laws that require banks to provide borrowers with a single point of contact when seeking a loan modification, a relatively small number of mortgage servicers like Bank of America and Ocwen are fomenting frustration and confusion among distressed homeowners. And when law enforcement officials fail to prosecute financial institutions for failing to comply with the law, desperate homeowners often have nowhere to go for help, and so become easy prey for foreclosure rip-off artists.

A recent California Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee meeting included testimony from experts who estimated that the banks that signed the National Mortgage Settlement, along with most of the other mortgage loan servicers in California, continue to break laws that were implemented to protect homeowners seeking loan modifications. Just last week, as the *Express* reported on its website, the California Reinvestment Coalition released a report showing that the nation's largest banks and mortgage servicing companies continue to violate standards and laws mandated by the National Mortgage Settlement, the California Homeowner Bill of Rights, and new federal mortgage servicing rules.

> "HARRIS NEEDS TO OPEN HER EYES," MARROQUIN SAID. "EVERYBODY I TALK TO, ALL THE HOMEOWNERS STRUGGLING TO AVOID FORECLOSURE, THEY HAVE BEEN SCAMMED BY TWO OR THREE PEOPLE."

"Part of the problem is that there's no enforcement of the homeowners bill of rights," said Marroquin. "When you allow the banks to continue to do what they want, people feel helpless, they look to other places for assistance, but then fall into these foreclosure rescue scams." ●

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EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Documenting Oakland's Originals

A new documentary series aims to build community and pride in Oakland by highlighting the creative talents of its residents

When Oakland resident Tim Monroe started inline skating around the city, it was mostly for the exercise. But as he kept exploring the areas around his Rockridge home, he got more ambitious, pushing himself to see how far he could go. He kept track of all the streets he had skated on a map and eventually began to wonder, "What would it take to do it all?"

Monroe, who now claims to have traversed the entire city via inline skating, is one of four subjects featured in *Oakland Originals*, a new documentary series created by Jim McSilver and Erin Palmquist about Oakland's creative residents. McSilver had long been interested in making a documentary about Oaklanders who were pursuing unique ventures, but it wasn't until he applied for (and won) a grant through the city's Cultural Funding Program that his idea came to fruition. For the first four shorts of the series, he and co-producer Erin Palmquist chose to profile Anya Wadud, the founder of Forage Oakland; Vanessa Solari Espinoza, a graffiti artist, DJ, and educator; Michael Christian, a metal sculptor; and Monroe.

Erin Palmquist and Jim McSilver. Chris Hardman

Palmquist and McSilver wanted to highlight people who were pursuing projects that had a strong connection to the city. "They are part of the mosaic that makes up this really diverse city," said McSilver. "There are so many aspects to that tableau."

The films explore how Oakland provides each person with the opportunities, resources, and motivation to pursue their crafts. For example, Solari Espinoza discusses how meeting artists in Oakland inspired her to include more messages about social change in her street art, and Christian explains how the city's abundance of large, industrial spaces enables him to build his installations.

The series will premiere at the Grand Lake Theater (3200 Grand Ave., Oakland) on Thursday, May 29, followed by a discussion with the filmmakers and the subjects of the series and an after-party at Ordinaire Wine Shop & Wine Bar (3354 Grand Ave.) and Panorama Framing, Inc. (3350 Grand Ave.). The filmmakers hope the screening will prompt community input on whom they should feature next.

For McSilver and Palmquist, the series allowed them to see the city in a whole new light. "Traveling around with Tim doing inline skating, I found whole neighborhoods that I didn't even really know about," said McSilver. "I got to explore the city in ways I hadn't before."

The filmmakers hope the documentaries will have a similar effect on both local and nonlocal audiences. "The series is about introducing people to this diversity that exists in Oakland," said Palmquist. "There are so many people who never get exposed to areas beyond their immediate neighborhood. This series can inspire people to cross the invisible boundaries that we develop."

Screening at 6 p.m., $10. After-party at 7 p.m., donations accepted. OaklandOriginals.com

— Zaineb Mohammed

ATTRACTIONS

Friday Nights at OMCA Night market with live music, dance, and food [illegible]. Fridays, 5-9 p.m., [illegible]. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

Good Dinosaurs Presented [illegible] where you can test your dinosaur IQ. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., $10-$15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-the-Beach.org.

Open Days Program: Garden Conservancy Self-guided tours of three private gardens in Lafayette and Oakland, open to the public. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., $5 per garden, free for children 12 and under. Potomac Waterworks, 2451 Oakland St., Oakland, 510-482-0007, PotomacWaterworks.com.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, & FIESTAS

[illegible] Annual Oakland [illegible] [illegible] samplings from [illegible] restaurants, live music, and more. Fri., May 30, [illegible] p.m., [illegible]. Kaiser Center [illegible] Garden, 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, KaiserCenterRoofGarden.com.

Alameda Point Antiques Faire With more than 800 antique dealers. First Sunday of every month, 6 a.m.-3:30 p.m., free-$15. AlamedaPointAntiquesFaire.com. Alameda Point Antiques Faire, 2900 Navy Way, Alameda, 510-522-7500, AlamedaPointAntiquesFaire.com.

Chocolate & Chalk Art Festival With [illegible], arts and crafts vendors, and a sidewalk chalk art [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Shattuck Ave., [illegible] St., Berkeley.

[illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible]. Sat., May 31 [illegible].

[illegible] Art & Wine [illegible] With 200 arts and [illegible] [illegible] stages with [illegible] from the '60s to '80s. Sat., May 31, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., and Heather Farm Park, 301 N. San Carlos Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-943-5858, [illegible].

HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SEXUALITY

East Bay Chronic Pain Group [illegible] at 510-653-3828 or e-mail [illegible] for more information. First and third Tuesday of every month, 3-5 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland, 510-597-5017, OaklandLibrary.org.

Bonding with Essential Oils Learn how to use essential oils, a form of plant medicine. Sat., May 31, 1-3 p.m., $10. Angel Light Books, 2347 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-595-1650, AngelLightBooks.com.

Women Project; Berkeley Group A [illegible] support group [illegible] [illegible]. First Wednesday of every month, free. [illegible] 2278 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, 510-[illegible].

Introduction to Oriental Medicine [illegible] Course examining the history and philosophy of Oriental medicine and its [illegible] applications. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Continues through June 25, $85. Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine College, 2550 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-666-8248, AIMC.edu.

[illegible] Book For ages 60 and up. [illegible] Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m., $5 suggested donation. South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., Berkeley, 510-981-5170.

[illegible] Lecture on the [illegible] Saturdays, 5-6 p.m. Continues through Jan. 3, [illegible], Berkeley, 1312 9th St., Berkeley, 510-528-5121, [illegible].

Meditation [illegible] Tuesdays, 12:15-1 p.m., free. [illegible], 2222 Harold Ave., Berkeley.

Parkinson's [illegible] Art of Moving Practice balance, coordination, [illegible] and [illegible]. Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon; Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, $120/[illegible]. Jewish Community Center of the East Bay, Berkeley, [illegible], 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237, JCCEastBay.org.

Peer Counseling With confidential drop-in counseling [illegible] therapy approach. Mondays-Fridays, 6:30 p.m., free. 510-848-2777. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2570, BerkeleyFreeClinic.org.

Substance Abuse Recovery Workshop Workshop for anyone with an addiction, alcohol or drug abuse, [illegible], their partners, family members or friends. Saturdays, 1-3 p.m., free. Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, 350 Hawthorne Ave., Oakland, 510-655-4000.

Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Class and Support Group Safe place for sharing experiences of loss and grief. [illegible] 8:30-3:30 p.m. Continues through [illegible]. First Presbyterian Church, 2407 Dana St., Berkeley, 510-848-6242, FPCBerkeley.org.

Yoga and Movement for Parkinson's Disease Focus on stretching, strengthening, and balance. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon; Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, $120/[illegible]. Jewish Community Center of the East Bay, Berkeley, [illegible], 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237, JCCEastBay.org.

KIDS

Art Workshop with MOCHA [illegible] the Oakland Museum of Children's Art [illegible] workshops with different themes each week. Wednesdays, 2 p.m. Oakland Public Library, Main Branch, 125 14th St., Oakland, 510-238-3134, OaklandLibrary.org.

Bug [illegible] Kids can head out with a magnifying glass, a net, a viewer, and a field journal, and take a closer look at local [illegible]. Saturdays, Sundays. Through Aug. 24. Continues through June 7, $5-$17, free for members. Lawrence Hall of Science, 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley, 510-642-5132, LawrenceHallofScience.org.

[illegible] Your Bike [illegible] "Earth Champ" [illegible] decorating and [illegible] your bike. Supplies will be [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m. Oakland Public Library, Main Branch, 125 14th St., Oakland, 510-238-3134, OaklandLibrary.org.

Ecology Center Family Fun Festival With a bounce house, [illegible] painting, an obstacle course, a farm animal [illegible], and more. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and [illegible] Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2180 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-981-8150, [illegible].

Family Cycling [illegible] Workshop for kids who can ride a bike with skill building, safety drills, fun games. Fri., May 30, 3-5 p.m. Oakland Park, 2889 21st St., San Pablo. 510-215-3097.

Math and Science Book Camp [illegible] for Oakland [illegible] in grades 3-12 to prepare Oakland to [illegible] college and career ready in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Sat., May 31, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., $15 for parents and educators, $10 for Oakland [illegible]. [illegible] 14th Street, Oakland, 510-267-1340, [illegible].

Peralta Hacienda Saturday Kids Class [illegible] featuring hands-on history, art and crafts, organic gardening and cooking, and environmental education. Saturdays, 2:30-5 p.m. Continues through May 31, free. Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, 2465 34th Ave., Oakland, 510-532-9142, PeraltaHacienda.org.

Saturday Storytime For [illegible] four to six. Saturdays, 2 p.m., free. Barnes & Noble, 5604 Bay St., Emeryville, 510-547-0905, BarnesandNoble.com.

[illegible] [illegible] Carver, Abby Cadabby, and their [illegible]. Fri., May 30, 6:30 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 10:30 a.m., 2 & 5:30 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 2 p.m., $21.00-$47.55. [illegible], 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121, [illegible].

Storytime en Espanol Featuring [illegible] by Gabriela [illegible]. Fri., May 30, 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, 510-524-0087, BarnesandNoble.com.

Toddlerfab: Oakland, Your Goodies Learn how to use [illegible] by [illegible] animation [illegible], to support drawings and other media. Sat., May 31, 1-3 p.m., $30. Lawrence Hall of Science, 1 Centennial Dr., Oakland, 510-642-5132, LawrenceHallofScience.org.

Amazing Reptile Program East Bay [illegible] brings salamanders, scorpions, boa constrictors and other reptiles to the [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 4-5 p.m. Berkeley Public Library, Claremont Branch, 2940 Benvenue Ave., Berkeley.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Storytime Storytime [illegible] Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Wed., June 4, 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, 510-524-0087, BarnesandNoble.com.

Video Game Programming for Kids A class for kids and [illegible] to learn and to program [illegible] simple games, and [illegible] game-development skills. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, and The Oakland Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, 610 16th St., Oakland, TheMADE.org.

ZooKids [illegible] a mini zoo tour, crafts, games, and a snack. [illegible] an animal, and a snack. Each [illegible] Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-noon. $36. Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, 510-632-9525, OaklandZoo.org.

Zoovie Night Movie night at the zoo, plus a [illegible] [illegible]. Hot chocolate and popcorn will be [illegible]. Fri., May 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m., $7. OaklandZoo, 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, 510-632-9525, OaklandZoo.org.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Embodying the Sacred: Sacred Dance of Transformation and Transformation An all-night women's gathering with [illegible], Rob-Winter Magor, and [illegible] who embodied [illegible] sacred fire ceremony, and a [illegible]. For more information, [illegible]. Sun., June 3, 7:30 p.m.; Wed., June 4, 7-10 p.m., $75.

Buddhism for the Beginner's Mind Featuring topics that make up [illegible] practice. Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. Continues through June 17. Chochmat HaLev, 2215 Prince St., Berkeley, 510-704-9687, Chochmat.org.

Meditation and Chanting [illegible] meditation practice. Sat., May 31, 12:45-2 p.m., free. [illegible] Temple, 47950 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont, 408-414-6432, [illegible].

Mindful [illegible] With [illegible] meditation [illegible] to happiness. Last Friday of every month, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. [illegible] Healing Connection, Inc., 3773 West St., Emeryville, 510-652-5530, [illegible].

Walnut Lag B'Omer [illegible] Community-wide celebration and night of Torah study. Tue., June 3; Wed., June 4, free. Jewish Community Center of the East Bay, Berkeley Branch, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237, JCCEastBay.org.

SALES, SWAPS, PROMOTIONS, & FUNDRAISERS

125th YWCA Anniversary Cocktail [illegible] Fundraiser [illegible] by [illegible] with [illegible], hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 6:30-10 p.m., $75-$125. Berkeley YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-848-6370, YWCA-Berkeley.org.

5th Annual [illegible] for the [illegible] Benefit [illegible] An evening [illegible] Hunter Dunn. Presented by Hamelin. Fri., May 30, 6 p.m., $150. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1400, LesherArtsCenter.org.

Alameda Point [illegible] Market With [illegible], custom jewelry, beauty accessories, [illegible], home decor, and vintage and antique items. Saturdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., free. 510-999-1658, [illegible]. College of Alameda, 555 Atlantic Ave., Alameda, 510-522-7221, [illegible].

[illegible] Swap Swap, buy, and build [illegible] and full bikes. Also featuring a community repair station, food, and drink. Sun., June 1, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Changing Gears Bike Shop, 650 W. Ranger Ave., Oakland, 510-986-1676, ChangingGearsBikes.org.

Party for [illegible] Fundraiser for outdoor programs at [illegible] Elementary School with food, drinks, building and [illegible] auction. Sat., May 31, 6-9 p.m., $15-$20. Uptown Body & Fender, 401 26th St., Oakland, 510-251-8009.

Paving the Way: [illegible] Tile Paper [illegible] Project [illegible] auction for the [illegible] pavers [illegible] by the Martin Luther King Jr. [illegible] and AXIS Gallery artists. Fri., May 30, 6-8 p.m. Auction bids start at $50. AXIS Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-2927, AXISGallery.com.

[illegible] Market and [illegible] A free market and [illegible] at the North Oakland Farmers' Market. Vendors and artists of the [illegible]. Last Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-250-7957, [illegible].

The Vintage Mart Pop-up shop with vintage clothing, jewelry and accessories as well as music and food. Saturdays, 12-7 p.m. Barns, 331 19th St., Oakland.

Yoga [illegible] Fundraiser with [illegible] opportunities to practice personal self-defense skills, performances by [illegible], plus a raffle, silent auction, and food and drink. Sat., May 31, 3-5 p.m., $10 donation requested. [illegible], 130 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-444-3404, [illegible].

SOCIAL EVENTS

Cato's Trivia Night Quiz [illegible] is [illegible] a weekly group pub quiz with prizes. Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. Cato's Ale House, 3891 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley, 510-655-3349, CatosAleHouse.com.

Kensington Library Knitting Club With knitting, show and tell, and yarn exchange open to all levels. First Monday of every month

PICKS

Stefano de Benedictis-Kessner

Eats, Beats & Brews

Nothing says it's (unofficially) summer like a block party. To that end, the Downtown Berkeley Association will host Eats, Beats & Brews every Sunday in June on Center Street between Shattuck Avenue and Oxford Street. Organizers piloted the block party at the outdoor street fair Sunday Streets last fall, and the enthusiastic response prompted them to bring it back for the summer. The festivities will include an outdoor beer garden hosted by Drake's Brewing, international cuisine from nearby restaurants, and live music from local bands such as Mad Noise, Muir Valley Settlers, and Into the Pacific. About 2,000 people attended the inaugural block party last October, so prepare for a crowd. —*Zaineb Mohammed*

Every Sunday in June. Noon-6 p.m., free. Facebook.com/eatsbeatsandbrews

Oakland's Got Talent

For those obsessed with talent competitions like *American Idol* and *So You Think You Can Dance*, now there's one with a local focus. Oakland's Got Talent. Parents of students at Oakland School for the Arts (OSA) initially organized the show to celebrate Oakland artists, but so many people outside of the city expressed interest in participating that they decided to open up the competition to anyone in the Bay Area. The show, which will take place on Wednesday at The Fox Theater (1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland), will feature fourteen acts, including vocalists, poets, dancers, and musicians, who were chosen out of the 254 people who auditioned. Celebrity judges including actress and singer Zendaya and *Fruitvale Station* producer Ephraim Walker will select three winners to receive cash prizes. The evening will also feature performances by local talent such as OSA's a cappella group Vocal Rush. —*Z.M.*

Wednesday, June 4, 7 p.m., $25-$250. OaklandsGotTalent.org

month, 6:30-8 p.m., free. Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Albany.

Playland After Dark: Grown-Up Game Night Play free pinball, arcade, carnival, and board games. No kids or babies. Second Tuesday of every month, 6-10 p.m. Last Thursday of every month, 6-10 p.m., $10. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-the-Beach.org.

Tuesday Night Trivia Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., free. The Fireside Lounge, 1453 Webster St., Alameda. 510-864-1244, TheFiresideLounge.com.

WAKE [illegible] [illegible]

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

Albany [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Work Day [illegible]

Discover [illegible] [illegible]

Dragon Boat Racing [illegible]

[illegible] Cyclers Lake [illegible] Night Ride [illegible]

[illegible]

Rusty Ride [illegible]

Fight Night [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

High [illegible] [illegible]

Lake Chabot Trail Challenge [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

Oakland Walking Tour [illegible]

The People's [illegible] Yoga [illegible]

Berkeley. 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Pickleball [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

San Francisco [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Bike Ride [illegible]

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

[illegible] [illegible]

A's vs. Angels The Oakland Athletics play the Los Angeles Angels. Fri., May 30, 7:05 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 7:05 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 1:05 p.m. [illegible] Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121, Coliseum.com.

A's vs. Tigers The Oakland Athletics play the Detroit Tigers. Thu., May 29, 12:35 p.m. $15-$77. O.co Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121, Coliseum.com.

Golden Gate Fields [illegible] [illegible]

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

THE HERITAGE WINE TRAIL WEEKEND

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Acacia Vineyard | 10AM - 4PM
Artisan Showcase and Presentations
Featuring April Martin Designs, Kollar Chocolates, Marshall's Farm Honey, Napa Valley Bath Co, Oakville Grocery and Darren Ryan, Cream and the Crop Cheeses and St. Helena Olive Oil Company

Beaulieu Vineyard | 10AM - 5PM
Movies and Music
Saturday will feature 3 Screenings of the Film SOMM and Music by Jeffrey Petters Sunday will feature 3 Screenings of the Film Bottle Shock and Music by Bobby Jo Valentine

Hewitt Vineyard and Provenence Vineyards | 10AM - 5PM
Meet The Winemakers and Wild Foods
Wine Blending 101 with Chris Cooney and Trevor Durling at 11am on Saturday. Wild Foods with Connie Green and Kim Daniels 1-3pm. Optional Lobster Feed 5-9pm

Sterling Vineyards | 10AM - 5PM
Celebrity Chef Joey Altman
Cooking demos with Celebrity Chef Joey Altman 10am and 12pm Saturday and Sunday

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WWW.PROARTSGALLERY.ORG

Directory of East Bay Arts available throughout the East Bay or visit Pro Arts, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza Oakland. Artist info and maps also available online at www.proartsgallery.org.

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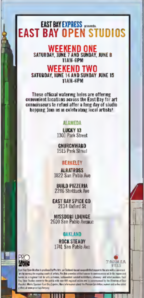
Image: Debra Jan Bibel, *Towers*, 2013, Acrylic and ink on canvas. East Bay Open Studios Artist 148. Courtesy of the Artist.



EAST BAY EXPRESS presents

EAST BAY OPEN STUDIOS

WEEKEND ONE

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 8
11AM-6PM

WEEKEND TWO

SATURDAY, JUNE 14 AND SUNDAY JUNE 15
11AM-6PM

These official watering holes are offering convenient locations across the East Bay for art connoisseurs to refuel after a long day of studio hopping. Join us in celebrating local artists!

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LUCKY 13
1301 Park Street

CHURCHWARD
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BERKELEY

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BUILD PIZZERIA
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EAST BAY SPICE CO
2134 Oxford St

MISSOURI LOUNGE
2600 San Pablo Avenue

OAKLAND

ROCK STEADY
1741 San Pablo Ave

PRO ARTS

TRUMER PILS

East Bay Open Studios is produced by Pro Arts, an Oakland-based nonprofit that supports the arts with a [illegible] serving the ongoing needs of artists. Pro Arts provides critical access to contemporary art in the region and serves as a regional hub for arts activism, independent curated exhibitions, advocacy and artist services. East Bay Open Studios connects the public with over 400 regional artists and is accompanied by the *Directory of East Bay Arts*. Media Sponsor: East Bay Express. More information about the Preview Exhibition, events and online artist gallery at www.proartsgallery.org

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JUNE 2 GRAVITY
JUNE 26 THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY
JULY 10 FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF
JULY 25 DESPICABLE ME 2
AUG 7 MAN OF STEEL
AUG 21 THE LEGO STORY

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FOOT OF BROADWAY
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JUNE 6
JUNE 13 SALSA
JUNE 20 CHACHA
JUNE 27 RUMBA
JULY 11 SINGLE TIME SWING
JULY 18 MERENGUE
JULY 25 SALSA
AUG 1 BACHATA
AUG 8 ELECTRIC SLIDE
AUG 15 ARGENTINE TANGO
AUG 22 NIGHTCLUB 2-STEP
AUG 29 HUSTLE
SALSA

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**Kansas City Barbecue Society

EAST BAY EXPRESS

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

ART GALLERIES

[illegible] Window Gallery: *Crossing the Line:* Exhibition of installations and video by [illegible]. May 31-July 8. free. 2014 Allston St., Berkeley. 510-981-2548.

Aggregate Space: *Fluid and Fancy Free:* Installation featuring Jana Flamberger and [illegible] Schlesinger. Through June 21. 801 West Grand Ave., Oakland. AggregateSpace.com.

Au Coquelet Café: **Michelle Morby, Jane M. Gilford, and Eddie Seaver:** Showcase of paintings by the three artists. Through May 30. **Kathleen Edwards and Katie Pope:** Art show featuring mixed media work by Kathleen Edwards and [illegible] by Kate Pope. June 3-July 1. free. 2000 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-0433. AuCoquelet.com.

Berkeley Art Center: *Known Essentials:* This exhibition will feature work from a selection of this year's most compelling East Bay Open Studios participants. Opening reception on Saturday, May 31 from 5-8 p.m. May 31-June 15. free. 1275 Walnut St. (in Live Oak Park), Berkeley. 510-644-6893. BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Innovative Arts Passage: Group exhibition featuring paintings, prints, installations, and more. Through Aug. 30. 2055 Center St., Berkeley.

Berkeley Public Library: *[illegible] Motion Pictures:* Berkeley photographer [illegible] large-scale [illegible] pigment prints from his Bay Area [illegible]. Through July 5. 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

[illegible], Berkeley: **Sally Sherwood:** Exhibition of the artist's multimedia work. Through May 31. 1300 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]/Berkeley.

[illegible]: *[illegible] Photos:* [illegible] by photographer Meg Allen examining the family of the [illegible] exhibition. Through May 30. 368 Broadway, Oakland. 510-763-2333.

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary Gallery: *Rhymes:* Solo exhibition by [illegible]. Through May 29. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-260-7494. ChandraCerritoContemporary.com.

City Limits Gallery: *Shiny Rhymes:* New paintings by Brooklyn-based artists Cheryl Oppenheim and Joshua Sargent. Through May 31. free. 300 [illegible] St., Oakland. 917-217-0587. CityLimitsGallery.com.

[illegible]: *Gesture and Structure:* Featuring large format of paintings by [illegible] Fox. Through May 23. 555 12th St., Oakland.

The Compound Gallery & Studios: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of new work by [illegible]. Through June 15. 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-601-1702. TheCompoundGallery.com.

Creative Framing & Gallery: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of original works by Heather Marrs, owner of the gallery. Through June 30. 5015 Woodminster Lane, Oakland. 510-882-1230. CreativeFramingOakland.com.

Creative Growth Art Center: *At the Table:* exhibition featuring work by more than 50 studio artists offering a new perspective on the annual Home show. Through June 6. 355 24th St., Oakland. 510-836-2340. CreativeGrowth.org.

David Brower Center: *Reimagining Progress:* Third annual juried exhibition of works by eighteen Bay Area artists offering perspectives on current theories of production, our consumer-based society, and sustainable practices. Through Sept. 4. 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900. BrowerCenter.org.

Expressions Gallery: *Spring Forward: Spring Visions:* group exhibition featuring digital art, photography, [illegible], and [illegible]. Through July 11. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930. ExpressionsGallery.org.

[illegible] Hispana: [illegible] by Paulina [illegible]. Through May 31. 1115 High St., Oakland. [illegible].

[illegible] Art Gallery: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of work by Gary [illegible] and [illegible] featuring [illegible]. Through June 7. [illegible] Pl., Oakland. 510-[illegible], Oakland.

[illegible] Contemporary.

FM: *Profoundly Important Exhibition of Stuff* by [illegible] Art. Through May 31. 483 25th St., Oakland. FMOakland.com.

Frank Bette Center: *[illegible] in Camera:* 2014 Annual juried exhibition conducted throughout the City of Alameda. Through May 31. 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.

Full [illegible] Press Communications: **Lisa Kokin and Alan MacLeitch:** Featuring mixed-media artwork by Lisa Kokin and metal sculptures by Alan MacLeitch. Through July 25. 401 12th St., Oakland. 510-271-8403. FCPCommunications.com.

Garage Gallery: *Short Stories:* Small sculptures by Phil Linhares. Through June 1. 2120 Wheeler St., Berkeley. 510-540-4719. BerkeleyOutlet.com/pages/garagegallery.html.

[illegible]: *A California Spring:* exhibition of Northern California paintings by thirteen of the region's premier [illegible]. Through May 31. free. 5510 Doyle St., Emeryville. 510-450-0550. [illegible].com.

Interface Gallery: *Fictional Landscapes:* Exhibition of photographs by [illegible]. Through June 8. free. 486 49th St., Oakland. InterfaceArtGallery.com.

[illegible] Gallery: **Spring 2014 Honors Art Exhibition:** Showcasing selected artwork by students at Berkeley City College. Through Aug. 31. free. 2050 Center St., Berkeley. 510-981-2800. [illegible].com.

Johansson Projects: *[illegible]:* Works by Craig Harvey featuring a collaboration with Jim Campbell. Through June 14. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-9140. JohanssonProjects.com.

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter: *Art of Steel:* [illegible] of large-format photographs shot at twilight by Tom Paiva featuring the [illegible] of the bridge pieces in Shanghai, China. *Daily: The Bridge Builders:* Photography exhibit highlighting the engineers, ironworkers, and welders behind the new East Span. Through May 31. 101 8th St., Oakland. 510-817-1700. MTC.ca.gov.

Joyce Gordon Gallery: *Emory Douglas: Artist for the People:* Retrospective of the [illegible], graphics of the [illegible] *Revolutionary Artist* and former minister of Culture of the Black Panther Party. Artist's reception on Friday, June 6 from 6-9 p.m. Through June 28. 406 14th St., Oakland. 510-465-8928. JoyceGordonGallery.com.

Kala Art Institute Gallery: *[illegible]:* Featuring new work by the 2013-2014 Kala Fellows. Artists' reception on Thursday, May 29 from 6-8 p.m. May 29-July 26. 2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-7000. Kala.org.

Krowswork: *A Unified Theory of Nobody:* exhibition of work by [illegible]. Through June 7. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-295-[illegible]. Krowswork.com.

La Peña Cultural Center: *Day [illegible] of Mountain View Exhibit:* exhibition of quilts made at the Day Worker Center of Mountain View, depicting the stories of the day workers. Sun., June 1, 4-5 p.m. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

[illegible] Building Gallery: Exhibition of site-specific installations. Through Sept. 26. 1911 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]Gallery.org.

LeQuiVive Gallery: *White Forest Noise:* Exhibition of work by Brett Flanigan and Conner [illegible]. Through June 20. 1525 Webster St., Oakland. 510-459-1769. LeQuiVive.com.

[illegible]: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of paintings by [illegible] and 3D-printed sculptures by Smith|Allen. Through June 2. 580 2nd St., Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery: *[illegible]:* exhibition of new work by [illegible]. Through June 14. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-285-2318. [illegible].com.

Marion & Rose's Workshop: *Linen and Cotton:* Exhibit of work by [illegible]. Through June 15. free. 461 8th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. MarionandRose.com.

Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center: *[illegible] Art Exhibition:* Juried exhibition of work by 28 Berkeley-based artists. Through Feb. 27, 2015. free. 2180 Milvia St., Berkeley.

[illegible] Johnston: *The Other Interview:* exhibition by David Snyder including a new batch of pictures which explore the photographs of the self during [illegible]. Through July 27. free. 3201 [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-0993. [illegible].

Mercury 20 Gallery: *[illegible]:* [illegible] by [illegible]. Artist's reception on Saturday, June 7 from 6-9 p.m. Through June 28. *Eye to Eye:* Solo exhibition of work by Mary Curtis Ratcliff. Artist's reception on Saturday, June 7 from 6-9 p.m. Through June 28. *[illegible]:* Exhibition of paintings by [illegible] Sterling. Artist's reception on Saturday, May 31 from 6-8 p.m. Through June 28. 475 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. MercuryTwenty.com.

Metro [illegible] Auditorium: *The Album of [illegible]:* travelogue by George [illegible]. Mondays-Fridays, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Continues through June 30. 101 Eighth St., Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery: *Winged Migration:* Exhibition of recent paintings by East artist [illegible]. Through July 13. [illegible] Blvd., Oakland. 510-338-[illegible].

Mythos Fine Art & Artifacts Gallery: *Force of Stars: Groundbreaking Women Painters 1950s and Beyond:* Exhibition showcasing a sampling of women painters who arose out of the Abstract Expressionist and Figurative movements of the 1950s. Gallerist Mary Kerr will show film clips and explore commentary on the exhibit on Saturday, May 31 from 7:30-9 p.m. Through June 21. 1790 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. MythosFineArt.com.

[illegible] Gallery: *[illegible]:* exhibition of work by Bud Snow. Through June 8. [illegible] 13th St., Oakland.

[illegible] Photography Studio: *First Light, Last Light:* Exhibit of photographs by [illegible]. Through May 31. free. 389 Colusa Ave., Kensington. 510-528-8245. [illegible].com.

MAD Art Center: *[illegible] + [illegible] Black and White Salon:* group exhibition. Through June 27. *Hanging [illegible]:* Installation. *The Work Of Lisa Solomon:* Exhibit of mixed media work by the [illegible] artist. Through June 27. *[illegible]:* Installation featuring the exhibition of urban life. Through June 27. *The Wild Bunch:* exhibition of work from [illegible] Stewart, Angela Reyes, [illegible] Colbert, and Phyllis [illegible]. Through June 27. 551 23rd St., Oakland. 510-820-0290. MADArt.org.

[illegible]: *Illustrated Paper:* Solo exhibit of photographs by San Francisco-based artist [illegible]. Through June 10. 3031 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-285-0029. [illegible].com.

Oakland City Hall: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of local artist [illegible]. Through June 20. *[illegible] the Bay Trail: A Photo Journal:* [illegible] by photojournalist Kurt [illegible] of the iconic walk around 300-plus miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail in thirty days. Through May 31. 5:30-7 p.m. 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland.

Oakland Public Library: *[illegible]:* *To Love:* exhibition of photographs by [illegible]. June 4-27. free. 125 14th St., Oakland. 510-238-7344. OaklandLibrary.org.

Paulson Bott Press: *Life in the Shade:* Drawings by Thornton Dial. Exhibition of [illegible] paintings. Through June 6. free. 2390 C Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-559-2088. PaulsonBottPress.com.

PHOTO: *[illegible]:* juried exhibition benefiting the San Francisco [illegible] Garden. Artists' reception on Saturday, June 7 from 2-5 p.m. Through July 12. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. PHOTOGalleryOakland.com.

Piedmont Center for the Arts: *Art Quilts of Marilyn [illegible]:* Collection of art quilts by Marilyn [illegible]. Thu., May 29, 1-3 p.m.; Fri., May 30, 1-3 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 1-3 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 1-3 p.m. 801 Magnolia Ave., Oakland. PiedmontCenterForTheArts.org.

[illegible]: *Oakland, Garages and [illegible]:* Exhibit of photographs by [illegible]. Through June 6. free. 1208 13th Ave., Oakland. [illegible].org.

[illegible] Bay Area: *At the [illegible]:* Solo exhibition of work by Bay Area artist [illegible]. Through July 12. 4824 [illegible] St., Emeryville. 510-[illegible]. [illegible].com.

[illegible] Hall and Works: *Unexpected Landscapes:* Exhibit of photographs by Jeb Walton and paintings by Ginny Parsons. Through July 3. free. 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda. 510-[illegible]. [illegible].org.

[illegible] Art Center: *The Breakfast Group:* [illegible] exhibition of 30 [illegible]

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Join us at the After Party (Uptown)

Sun 6/1:
Cohousing Intro (AM, S. Berkeley); Yulupa & Pleasant Hill Tours (PM)

Tues 6/3:
Transition Towns Potluck with a Purpose (Albany, evening)

community RESILIENCE challenge

Wed 5/28 5:30-7 pm
Community Resilience Happy Hour (Comm'l, Berkeley) Last Call: Register your Green Actions by This Weekend

HACK

Fri 6/13 Hack The Housing Crisis (SF)

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Sat PM 6/14: Voice Dialogue: Understanding Conflicts w/Martha Lou Wolff (Berkeley)

6/28-29: Dynamic Governance/ Sociocracy Foundations w/John Schinnerer (Berkeley)

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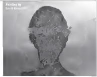
PICKS

Degeneration/ Regeneration


Painting by Scott Greenwalt

Few subjects are more prevalent in today's cultural cognition than the dichotomy between the natural and the technological — especially in the Bay Area, where a landscape that was once the natural frontier is becoming the frontier of technological innovation and integration into daily life. So, it's only inevitable that artists across the region should be tapping into this tension as inspiration for their work. The latest example can be found in *Degeneration/Regeneration*, a split show at Loakal Gallery (500 2nd St., Oakland) featuring painter Scott Greenwalt and artistic duo Smith|Allen, made up of sculptor and installation artist Stephanie Smith and architect and designer Bryan Allen. Greenwalt's large-scale, acrylic paintings use intricate line work to build abstract tangles of color that seem to buzz with electricity while also evoking the organic forms of biological cells or fine, interwoven roots. His color palette is made up of earth tones and neon hues that disregard the distinctions between the traditional and the futuristic, the down-to-earth and the extra-terrestrial. Alongside, Smith|Allen creates 3D-printed sculptures that mimic organic forms like coral reef, yet in the deliberately layered and quintessentially manufactured texture of a plastic print. Working with biodegradable plastic, the duo's work challenges viewers to rethink the opposition between organic forms and pioneering modes of production. — *Sarah Burke*

Runs through June 2. 510-747-9957 or EBXLoakal.com.

artists of the [illegible] Group, who have been meeting weekly since the 1960s. Through May 30. **Art in the Community Program Student Show:** Exhibition showcasing the work being created in the Art Center's painting Art in the Community Program. Through May 30. free. *Victor Cartagena: Silent/Sights of Intervention:* Installations by the San Francisco-based artist putting from his memories fleeing El Salvador's civil wars in 1985. Through May 30. 1940 Russell Ave. [illegible] 510-620-6772. [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Bates work by the artist. Through May 31. 472 25th St. [illegible]

[illegible]: Exhibit of the [illegible] exhibition of etchings of [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible] of the May. Through May 31. 526 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-444-8911.

San Pablo Art Gallery: *Artists Behind the Street Paintings by* [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible]. Through June 28. free. 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. 510-860-8673, [illegible]

SLATE contemporary: *New Expressions in Photography:* Featuring photography by [illegible]. Through June 28. 473 25th St. [illegible] 510-[illegible] SlateArtAndDesign.com.

Subterranean Arthouse: *Observation Points:* Visual artists [illegible] present perspectives on nature and city environment. Opening reception on Friday, June 6 from 5:30-8 p.m. June 4-25. 2179 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. SubterraneanArthouse.org.

[illegible]: [illegible] Group Exhibition [illegible] June 1-Aug. 15. [illegible] Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-1214. [illegible]

Uptown Oakland: [illegible] weekly [illegible] at Art [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] on the galleries. [illegible] OaklandArtMurmur.org for a full [illegible] participating Oakland galleries. Saturdays, 1-6 p.m. 19th St. at Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery: *[illegible]:* Exhibition of sculpture by [illegible] and sculpture and painting by [illegible]. Opening reception on Friday, June 6 from 6-9 p.m. Through July 12. 871 25th St., Oakland.

[illegible]: *[illegible]:* [illegible] project [illegible] related to [illegible] work. Through Dec. 31. UC Berkeley, Berkeley.

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Library: *The Oral History Exhibition:* Highlighting the Regional Oral History Office's project to conduct interviews with 58 pioneering African American faculty and senior administrators who joined Berkeley [illegible] the advent of affirmative action policies in the 1970s. Through Sept. 1. UC Berkeley, Berkeley. Bancroft.Berkeley.edu.

BAM/PFA: *Envisioning Human Rights: The Next Generation:* Includes paintings, photographs, and prints by emerging artists/activists from across the state addressing social and human rights themes. Through Sept. 14. *The Elephant's Eye: Art of Buddhist South & Southeast Asia:* Exhibition featuring thirty paintings, [illegible] from India, Thailand, and Cambodia [illegible] the many ways [illegible] and history. Sign language interpreted tour on Tuesday, May 13 at 12:30 p.m. Through June 29. *Kids Club:* Special gallery dedicated to showing elementary-school-age children in creative work. Part of [illegible] exhibition *The Possible.* Through Dec. 31. *MATRIX 252:* Selection of the artist's work exploring [illegible] time. Through photography, collage, sculpture, and video. Through June 20. **University of California, Berkeley Master of Fine Arts Graduate Exhibition:** Exhibition of work by MFA graduates [illegible], Elizabeth Keegan, and [illegible]. Through June 8. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life: *Saved by The Bay: The celebration Migration from Fascist Europe at UC Berkeley:* Exhibition [illegible] on a [illegible] research project that highlights the story of scholars who [illegible] Europe and shaped the academic [illegible] of the University of California. Panel discussion on Thursday, May 15 from 6-7 p.m. Through June 27. 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-643-2526. Magnes.org.

Oakland Museum of California: *Villains and Superheroes:* [illegible] with faculty and students at San Diego State University [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] and the social and political [illegible] of comics through the [illegible]. Through May 31, 2015. $4-$15, free for children under 8 and for members. *A Cinematic Study of Fog in San Francisco:* Filmmaker Sam Green and cinematographer Andy Black present a [illegible] on their ongoing investigation of fog. Through June 29. *Vinyl: The Sound and Culture of Records:* Exhibit exploring the [illegible] of listening to, collecting, and shaping records. With listening stations, talks, and live performances. Through July 27. *Installation Poetic Masterpieces of California's Landscape:* Showcase of California landscape art from the museum's holdings. Through July 13. *Judy Chicago: A Butterfly for Oakland:* Exhibition of [illegible] and slides documenting *A Butterfly for Oakland*, Judy Chicago's 1974 site-specific installation on the shore of Lake Merritt. Through Nov. 30. *The Snapshot of the [illegible]:* Exhibit of [illegible] capturing everyday Oakland social scenes from the collection of celebrated San Francisco artist [illegible]. Through July 6. *Bay Motion: Exploring San Francisco Bay on Film:* Selection of [illegible] the Prelinger [illegible] [illegible] the San Francisco Bay and the surrounding region have been captured on [illegible] by amateur, professional, and industrial camera people. Through June 28. *Superdarmonic: Art and Giant Robot:* Exhibition featuring the work of fifteen contemporary artists associated with the magazine *Giant Robot*, a celebration of Asian and Asian American pop and alternative culture. Through July 27. **Superdarmonic Salon: [illegible] Culture:** [illegible] a [illegible], a [illegible], arts and craft activities, and a meet and greet with some of the museum's exhibiting artists. Fri., May 30, 5-9 p.m. $6-$15, free for children under 8 and for members. **Free First Sundays:** Free museum admission every first Sunday of the month. First Sunday of every month, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. **[illegible] Tour of the Oakland [illegible]:** [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] building. Starting Jan. 1. Sundays, 1 p.m. Continues through June 29. $15 for adults, $10 for seniors and students, $6 for youth, free for [illegible] under 8 and [illegible]. 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 510-318-8400. MuseumCA.org.

Pardee Home [illegible] Historical Park: *What I Have, I Keep:* [illegible] Oakland's [illegible] and audio art installation based [illegible] on African American [illegible] of modern-day Oakland. Based [illegible] the personal experiences of local [illegible]. Wednesdays-Saturdays. 1486 34th Ave., [illegible] 510-532-8182. [illegible]

The Local Economy Issue

This new special issue will focus on the importance of small businesses to our region and the pivotal role they play in creating growth, innovation, and opportunity in our local economy. We'll have stories that focus on small retailers, relationships between local businesses and governments, triple bottom line issues, and a host of other concerns facing area entrepreneurs, business owners, local workers, and sustainability enthusiasts.

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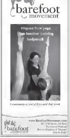
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THEATER & DANCE

COMEDY

Comedy at Oakland's Comedy Night A weekly comedy show co-hosted by Gordon and Marc. Fridays, 8 p.m., $10. MLK Cafe, 3600 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, 510-450-0600.

Comedy All-Stars Ghosthouse Featuring the Area's up-and-coming Bay Area stand-up comedians. First and third Sunday of every month, 8:30 p.m. Ivy Room, 860 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-5888, ivyroom.com.

Layover Comedy Nick Spangeman hosts Oakland's best dozen Bay Area comedians. Tuesdays, 8:30-10 p.m., free. The Layover, 1517 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-834-1517, OaklandLayover.com.

Powerhouse Ghost Birthday Day Cast After Party Featured comedians include Nick G., Lance Godley, Ashley Ghost, and Kelly O'Kelly with host Bryant Berto and [illegible] Birthday 17. The after party will feature snacks, pinball play, and dancing with DJ [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 8 p.m., $15. Pacific Pinball Museum, 1510 Webster St., Alameda, 510-769-1349, PacificPinball.org.

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

The Ballet School – Performing Arts Association Students from Lesher Center's the Ballet School Performing Arts showcase, on stage. Sun., June 1, 11 a.m., 2 & 6 p.m., $25. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1400, LesherArtsCenter.org.

Patricia Bulitt Performance by the dancer, interdisciplinary artist, storyteller and teaching artist. Sat., May 31, 11:30 p.m., $8 for adults, $5 for kids. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Delsy: Discovering New Species Dance poetry performance by Margit Galanter. Sat., May 31, 6:30-9:30 p.m., $20. Starline Social Club, 2236 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland.

Siempre con Alegría Fifth year anniversary celebration featuring the Ballet Folklórico Costa de Oro. Sat., May 31, 3 & 7:30 p.m., $20-$25. San Leandro Performing Arts Center, 2200 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, 510-618-4920, www.[illegible].org/

What's the Upshot and Ludo Numerologies: Performances by Risa Jaroslow & Dancers and Peiling Kao Fri., May 30, 8 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 8 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 4 p.m., $18 general admission, $15 for students and seniors. Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, 2704 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley, 510-654-5921, Shawl-Anderson.org.

LIVE VARIETY

Oakland's Got Talent 2014 Talent show featuring Jameson Kent and featuring over ten musicians from across the Bay Area. Plus special performance by June and celebrity Robin Wed. June 6, 7 p.m., $25-$30. The Fox Theater, 1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-302-2250, TheFoxOakland.com.

Music Stage II A big show featuring Vegas Jake, Randy Funk, Stevie Ray Hickey, Fran, Papa Part, Carrie, Logan Carswell, and more. Oakland by [illegible] the third and first Wednesday of every month, 8 p.m., $6. White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3820, WhiteHorseBar.com.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

After Juliet Production of Sharman Macdonald's Shakespeare-inspired play about the aftermath of Romeo and Juliet's deaths by Berkeley City Broadway. Thu., May 29, 8 p.m.; Fri., May 30, 8 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 8 p.m.; Sun., June 1, 2 p.m.; Fri., June 6, 7:30 p.m.; Sat., June 7, 2 & 8 p.m., $25 general admission, $18 for under-30, $10 for high school. Jameson The Flight Deck, 1540 Broadway, Oakland, 510-473-0766, TheFlightDeck.org.

Always...Patsy Cline Tribute to the legendary country singer, based on a true story about Cline's continuing friendship with one of her biggest fans. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through June 15, $21-$24. Altarena Playhouse, 1409 High St., Alameda, 510-523-1553, altarena.org.

The Onion II new play by Emily Oakland, Sarah, on the novel by Ha Jin, about a young scholar coming of age in Communist China on the eve of the Tiananmen Square massacre. Production by Central Works Writers Workshop. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m. Continues through June 22, $15-$28. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley, BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Daylight: The Berkeley Stories Project A young woman who wants [illegible] on a dusk to dawn walk across Berkeley, journeys through Berkeley's history and her own, encountering strangers and old friends who help her [illegible]. Through June 22, $8-$35. Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-6500, ShotgunPlayers.org.

Good Men's Cell Phone Sarah Ruhl's comedy about a woman forced to confront her own assumptions about morality, redemption, and the need to connect in a technologically obsessed world. Starting May 30, Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through June 28, $20. Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Pl., Richmond, 510-232-4031, Masquers.org.

The Expulsion of Malcolm X Play exploring the relationship between Malcolm X and Elijah Muhammad and the sexual scandal that devastated their bond and ultimately led to the assassination of Malcolm X. Thu., May 29, 7:30 p.m.; Fri., May 30, 7:30 p.m.; Sat., May 31, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m., $10-$40. Laney College, 900 Fallon St., Oakland, 510-464-3210, Laney.peralta.edu.

The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures Tony Kushner's astonishing play about an American family reunion that ensues when retired longshoreman Gus Marcantonio's sister invites his three children home to their Brooklyn brownstone. Through June 29, $45-$75. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

The Letters John W. Lowell's play set in the Soviet Union in 1931 about the hidden agendas of a Ministry official and his employee Anna, who he orders into his office for a job-related interview. Through June 8, $32. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-843-4822, AuroraTheatre.org.

Mark Play Berkeley what it seems to be happy (at mixed Asian heritage) in Berkeley. Co-production with Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through June 8, La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, 510-464-4468.

Nantucket Mark Nantucket's [illegible] growing up in Nantucket, featuring guest artists presenting music, video, and fine art photography inspired by Nantucket. Through July 13, $15-$30. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Not a Genuine Black Man Solo show by Brian Copeland about growing up black in the 1970s in San Leandro, California. Through June 28, $15-$40. The Marsh Berkeley, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, BerkeleyRep.org.

A Raisin in the Sun Patricia McGregor's production of Lorraine Hansberry's Broadway play about the Younger family of 1950s Chicago, and the inheritance check that puts everything they know into question. Check CalShakes.org for special events throughout Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through June 15, $35-$85. Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda.

PICKS

Risa Jaroslow & Dancers and Peiling Kao

Many contemporary choreographers make dances about big ideas: the best ones create works that are visual and visceral as well as conceptual. Shawl-Anderson Dance Center (2704 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley) will host two such artists this weekend, when Peiling Kao and Risa Jaroslow and Dancers join forces for a salon showing of new works set to premiere later in the year. Jaroslow, who recently relocated to the Bay Area after forty highly acclaimed years in New York, presents *What's the Upshot?*, which asks "how we make decisions that bring us to a point of change." Melding mathematical rigor and lush sensuality, San Francisco-based Kao performs *Ludo Numerologies*, an exploration of numbers, systems, and manipulation that is greater than the sum of its parts. Kao performs Friday and Sunday only; following its Saturday performance, Jaroslow's company will present a breakdown of *Upshot*. Seating is limited, so advance ticket purchase is highly recommended. — *Claudia Bauer*

Risa Jaroslow & Dancers

David Tobin

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#OaklandIndieAwards #OakIndies14

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the 8th Annual Oakland
Indie Awards.

Congratulations to the 2014
Indie Award winners!

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The Indie Awards offers a delicious opportunity to taste dishes from some of Oakland's freshest restaurants. Your tastebuds will be tantalized by…

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Tina Tamale
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Nieves Cinco de Mayo
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Sweet Bar Bakery
Cupcake Cakes!

Adam's Mediterranean
Chicken Kabob, Falafel, Pita Bread and Salad!

Jackson Blake Kitchens
Ribs!

Javi's Empanadas
Argentine Empanadas!

Café Gabriela
Pork Adobo Crostini, Mozzerella + Tomato Crostini and vegan pansit!

GrilledcheezGuys
Grilled Cheese and Soup Shots!

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Congratulations to the 2014 Indie Awards Nominees

Businesses and artists were nominated by the Oakland community in seven categories

Oakland Soul Represents the soul, essence and spirit of Oakland. This business or artist appreciates diversity and creativity, is confident in their individuality and humbly supports their brothers and sisters.

Ripple Effect A business that supports the local economy by buying their supplies and services from other local vendors, creating a "ripple effect" as money circulates within the community.

Innovative Newcomer A business or artist that started in the last three years that excites and inspires with a creative new idea, perspective, model or solution.

Greenie An environmental champion who works to improve our community through sustainable practices, products or services. This local business or individual reduces waste or consumption, creates green products or provides green services.

Social Changemaker This socially responsible business or individual incorporates positive social change into their mission, operations, and/or measures of success. They use creative approaches to give back to the community and address economic and environmental issues.

Pillar A long established Oakland business or artist with deep roots in the community and long-standing ties to the people, culture and history of The Town. This person or business mentors newbies and is renowned for their contributions to Oakland's living history.

Job Creator An independent business that has a positive effect on the region by consistently providing good jobs for residents of the Bay Area, employs 50 people or more, is socially responsible and/or environmentally sustainable.

MEET THE NOMINEE

17 Jewels Salon + Spa
30 Minute Manager
ACME House of Music
Adam's Mediterranean Grill
Alternative Dispute Resolution
American Steel Studios
Anasa Yoga
Antique Music
Art and Steel
Atomic Allure
Baby Jaymes
BALANCE Edutainment
& Pacha's Pajamas
Be the Change Consulting
Beija Flor
Berkeley Rustic Birdhouses
Betti Ono
Birdland Jazzista Social Club
Blind Tiger Society
Blue Door Beads
Bri Blue
Broadway Shuttle
Browntourage
B-Side BBQ
Build & Imagine
Cafe Gabriela
Chaney Turner
Chop Bar
Claudine Naganuma
Consuelo Jacobs - RIKA Events
CORE Foods
Crown Nine
Cutting Edge Capital
David Sturdevant

DIG Cooperative, Inc
Donut Savant
DopeOnly
Dr. Crystallee Crain
Earth Amplified
Edible Excursions
Edwin Rutsch
Emily's Army (band)
Fantastic Negrito
Farley's East
FATAL Jewelry
Fathom
Feelmore Adult Gallery
field day & friends
FLEX
Get Goes Mobile Cafe
GloriB Buttons
Granthelper
Gray Loft Gallery
Grease Box
Green Carpet Clean
& Housekeeping Services
Gregory Kloehn &
The Homeless Home Project
Halmoni Vintage
Hal's NY Hot Dogs
Hatch Ecolifestyle
High Altitude Youth Program
Holistic Veterinary Care
Impact Hub Oakland
International Contact, Inc
James and the Giant Cupcake
Jennifer Johns
Jezebel Delilah X

S

Jo'nez Cain
K to College
Kainbigan
Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre
Kev Choice
Kristen Turnbloom
Kumu Hula Mark Keali'i Ho'omalu and the Academy of Hawaiian Arts
Lake Merritt Dental
LATE NITE ART
Laurel Book Store
Life is Living
Lisa B
Little Shop Artisan Box
Loakal Art Gallery & Boutique
Localite Tours
Lolo Health
Loring Cafe
Luka's Taproom & Lounge
Maribel
Marion & Rose's Workshop
Mix'd Ingrdnts
Montclair Sports
Montclair Veterinary Hospital
Mr D's Music Club
Mueller Nicholls
NanoArchitech
New Parkway Theater
Nona Lisa's Music
Oakland Floats
Oakland Future Trio
Oakland Teen Empowerment Scholarship Pageant
Oakland Unseen
Oaktown Blooms
Oaktown Indie Mayhem
Otaez Mexican Restaurant
Parliament
Paws & Claws
Pedal Express Bicycle Courier Company
Pendarvis Harshaw
People's Community Market
Peralta Service Corporation
Phat Beats Produce
Pican Restaurant
Piedmont Avenue Consulting
Popuphood
Qeyno Labs
Rare Bird
Reclamation Republic
Red Bay Coffee
Resurrect
RIDE Oakland
Rod Dibble @ The Alley Piano Bar
RSH Boutique
SAGRADA Sacred Arts
Saint Harridan
SambaFunk! Carnaval Explosion with King Theo
Seduction Feroce
Seneca Family of Agencies
Seventeenth Street Studios
Shabnam Bellydance
Show & Tell
Simply Bliss Catering & Events
Sky City Design + Color
SoleSpace
Sosu Sauces
Souley Vegan
SPECTRUM Queer Media
Spice Monkey Restaurant & Bar
Steve DeAngelo
Studio Grand
SuRu Clothing
The Jazz & Democracy Project
the [illegible] CLUB
The Oakland Athletics
The Pat Concierge
The Sacred Well
The Sound Room
The Unity Council Home Ownership Center
This is Oakland, A Guide to the City's Most Interesting Places
Thought Publishing
Tomye Living Artist
TomyThis is Oakland A Guide to the City's Most Interesting Places
Top Ten Social
Torrey Pines Bank
Underground Runway
Uptown Body & Fender
Uptown Juice Company
Urban University
VAMP Vintage Art & Music for the People
Vanessa Solari Espinoza
Vee Planning & Travel
Walrus
WaterSprout Inc
Western Christian Books & Cafe
Wine & Bowties
Yes & Yes Designs
Young Gifted and Black
Youth Radio
Youth Speaks

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Indies Awards Winners 2007-2013

Inspiring Oakland's businesses, arts and culture

2013 Winners

38th Notes Oakland Soul
Juniper Ridge Greenie
Savor Oakland Food Tours Ripple Effect
Kitchener Oakland Innovative Newbie
Jazz Hudson Social Changemaker
Sungevity Job Creator
Ed Support Services Job Creator
Tina Tamale/La Borinquena Pillar

2012 Winners

Isa Lyfe Oakland Soul
Ba Design Greenie
Green Planet 21 Greenie
Taco Grill Taqueria & Pozoleria Ripple Effect
28th Street Collective Innovative Newbie
Ecologic Brands Innovative Newbie
Marc Bamuthi Joseph Socially Responsible Rockstar
Revolution Foods Socially Responsible Rockstar
Head Designs Pillar

2011 Winners

Montclair Vet Hospital Pillar
Give Something Back Pillar
Mandela Foods Cooperative Ripple Effect
Back to the Roots Ventures Innovative Newbie
Karen's Flowers Socially Responsible Rockstar
The Rising Loafer Cafe Greenie (business)
Jamie Valda Greenie (artist)

2010 Winners

Peerless Coffee Pillar
Joyce Gordon Gallery Oakland Soul
Collective of BayVAN/ Compound Gallery /PLAID Friday Ripple Effect
Snap Judgement Newbie
Natural Home Cleaning Professionals Innovator Award
Ryan Duke Greenie Award
Oaklandish Youth Empowerment
Uptown Body & Fender Neighborhood Dynamo

2009 Winners

Grand Lake Theatre Pillar
Khalil Shaheed Oakland Soul
Margo Rivera Weiss Ripple Effect
Catered to You Newbie
Girl with a Truck Innovator
Awaken Cafe Greenie
Hip Learning Youth Empowerment
Rough and Ready Repairs Neighborhood Dynamo
Woody's Laundromat Neighborhood Dynamo

2008 Winners

Bruce Beasley (Artist) Pillar
OAKBOOK/Neverstore Oakland Soul
Ruby's Garden Ripple Effect
Tip Top Bike Shop Newbie
Pandora Innovator
Universal Waste Management Greenie
Keith "K-Dub" Williams (Artist) Youth Empowerment Award
La Verbena Juice Bar & Cafe Neighborhood Dynamo

2007 Winners

La Borinqueña Pillar Award
Design Action Oakland Soul
Farmer Joe's Marketplace Ripple Effect
Swarm Gallery and Studios Newbie
Play Cafe Innovator
Nomad Café Greenie
Galen Petersen Youth Empowerment Award (Artist)
McGrath Properties Youth Empowerment Award (Business)
Entrez! Open House Uptown Dynamo
B Restaurant Old Oakland Dynamo
Turns San Antonio Dynamo
Laurel True, Institute of Mosaic Art Jingletown Dynamo
Audio Video Consultants Grand Ave Dynamo
Paws N Claws Dimond Dynamo
L Amyx Tea Piedmont Ave Dynamo
Parkway Theatre Lake Merritt / Park Dynamo
Tumble and Tea Temescal Dynamo
Komodo Toys Laurel Dynamo
Royal Jewels SOBO Dynamo
T J 's Gingerbread House Soul Dynamo

Support Oakland's Local Economy – Shop the Indies

It matters! For every $100 spent in independently owned stores, $68 of it returns to the community through taxes, payroll, and other expenditures. If you spend that in a national chain, only $43 stays here. Indies also give more to local nonprofits, demonstrating their passion for supporting their neighbors and community.

Vendors showcasing and selling their wares at the 8th Annual Oakland Indie Awards

American Steel Studios
Angeles Chiropractic
Azure Salon
Bella Organizing
Beulah's Bean Truck
Chabot Space & Science Center
Earth Tribe Yoga
Educents
Enderfin Chocolat
Engineered Cupcakes
Field Day Wearables
Gathinji
Glori8 Buttons
Handsome in Pink
Harper Greer
Head Designs
Impact Hub Oakland
IMPRESSED by nature
iStyle Fashion & Beauty Society
Joyce Gordon Gallery
Kaya Sattva Jewelry
Lake Merritt Dental
Latisha Baker Artworks
Lisa Yvette's Creative Allure
Localite Tours
Lokey Graduate School of Business (Mills College)
Lolo Health
Manale Pictures (Manale Cinematic LLC)
Mio Spa & Salon
Mix'd Ingrdnts
Montclair Village Pilates
nuu jewelry
Oakland Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine Clinic
Oakland Grown/Sustainable Business Alliance
Oakland Men's Chess Center
Oakland Youth-Friendly Business Network
Old School Copes
Pedal Express
Pro Arts
Reclaimation Republic
Ruth Stroup Insurance Agency
Saint Harridan
Show & Tell
Skincare by Felecia
SoleSpace
Tangleweeds
The Breema Center
The Girl and Rhino
This is Oakland: A Guide to the City's Most Interesting Places (book)
ThreadWritten Textiles
Temye Gouache Art
Turning Heads
Two Jacks Denim
uNide
Urban Antiqw
Urban Stitch Boutique
Vermeulen & Co
Wear Your Voice Magazine
WISH Montclair

WEAR YOUR VOICE
a magazine exploring Oakland's neo urban revival

Congratulations to the Indie award winners and nominees!

"Thank you for giving voice to the great city of Oakland and making it what it is today. Continue Wearing Your Voice!"

—best wishes from the founder Ravneet & the WYV team

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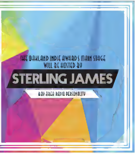
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[illegible]ring at a [illegible] lati[illegible]

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THEATER REVIEW

LOVE, POLITICS, AND SCREAMING

Berkeley Rep's *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism* is a high-speed car chase of emotional onslaught.

By Anna Pulley

KevinBerne.com

Humor is abundant in *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide*

The *Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures* takes place in a Brooklyn brownstone where Gus (actor Mark Margolis from *Infidel Corner* and *Breaking Bad*), a retired longshoreman and union organizer, has decided he wants to kill himself. His grown children — Pill (Lou Liberatore), Empty (Deirdre Lovejoy), and Vito (Joseph J. Parks) — and his sister Clio (Randy Danson of (*Wicked* and *The Last Temptation of Christ*) are not too keen on the idea, as you can imagine, and all gather in Gus' Carroll Gardens home to try to change her mind.

As you might suspect from the "intelligent" in the title, much of the play's dialogue is peppered with philosophy, Marxist creeds, and theology — even the sex scenes are remarkably heady — but the central force behind the familial struggle requires no outside reading on dialectics or tracts on the history of labor. It's decidedly animalistic. Indeed, a solid block of time is devoted to various family members screaming at each other, busting holes in walls, knocking people unconscious, crying, and confessing dark secrets better left unaired. It felt, at times, like watching *The Jerry Springer Show*, if the show had ever been written by a Pulitzer-Prize winner, as playwright Tony Kushner is.

This isn't to impugn Kushner's work in any way — his fight scenes are damn near poetic, and his keenness and linguistic deluges for grappling with life's most tortured questions are unparalleled — but the screaming and cacophony of voices rendered one too many conversations moot — or mute as it were. As is evidenced by the fourteen-word title (a reference to George Bernard Shaw's *The Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism and Capitalism* and Mary Baker Eddy's *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*) Kushner has a lot to say on the subject of family love, politics, and Horace, but all the continuously overlapping voices began to feel tiresome after a while, especially since the play is nearly four hours long. (Kushner is not known for his brevity — his epic *Angels in America* was almost seven hours long.)

Nonetheless, *Intelligent* is superbly acted. Lovejoy in particular is utterly gripping as the cheating, lesbian labor lawyer Empty, whose wife (Liz Wisan) is eight months pregnant with a child Empty not only doesn't want, but which was created using the sperm of Empty's brother Vito. Empty, it seems, feels the greatest undoing over her father's decision to commit suicide, and her pleading, at first lawyerly and rational, then hysterical, resigned, and desperate, are keenly felt. (I may be slightly biased because of how much I loved Lovejoy on *The Wire*.) Paul (Tyrone Mitchell Henderson) also shines as the irate, cuckolded husband of Pill, whose angry takedowns are so eloquent and multi-syllabic they verge on philosophic — which makes sense, as he is a theologian by trade. The reason for Paul's outrage is Pill's lover, Eli (Jordan Geiger), the hot young prostitute who falls in love with Pill, causing Pill and Paul to leave New York for Minnesota in order to escape him. Rounding out the motley crew is Adam (Anthony Fusco), Empty's ex-husband, who lives in Gus' basement and is still in love with Empty.

Though Kushner's commitment to the visceral and dramatic remains intact in *Intelligent*, the humor is also abundant, even if it is decidedly gallows-based. Upon recalling Gus' first suicide attempt by slitting his wrists in a bathtub, Vito implores him not to do it again because he "seriously fucked up the upstairs bathroom." After Shelle (Robyan Rodriguez), the "death coach" who teaches Gus how to die with less panic and suffering, leaves the house, a stricken Empty deadpans, "Well, she was nice." But the star of the show is Danson's Clio, a former nun turned Maoist. In the midst of all the chaos and jabbering, she sits with unerring calm and adept silence, leading the production to its funniest moments.

Despite the tired moments of comedic reprieve, the majority of *Intelligent* acts as a high-speed car chase of emotional onslaught. The intensity never buckles or dips, but stays in Amber Alert mode throughout, which can be particularly exhausting. (The two intermissions were sorely appreciated.)

"The only real death is to live meaninglessly," Gus says during one of the final explosive scenes with Empty. The challenging subjects of *Intelligent* are hard-won by the exemplary cast and the direction by Tony Taccone, a longtime Kushner collaborator. Props also go to scenic designer Christopher Barreca, whose set felt uncannily lived in and detailed.

While Kushner grapples easily with issues of familial secrets, loss of faith, oarlocks, and desire, he could take a cue or two from Clio in the matter of learning when to stop talking. ●

Show Details

The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism runs through June 29 at Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre (2015 Addison St., Berkeley). $29-$99. BerkeleyRep.org

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

AC TRANSIT

We Want Your Feedback!

Civil Rights Act and Environmental Justice Policy Proposals

AC Transit is committed to ensuring protection of civil rights, non-discrimination, equitable access to service, and environmental justice.

A series of public community meetings will be held in advance of a public hearing to formally gather public comment on the proposed policies.

Community Meetings

Thursday, May 29
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Fremont Family Resource Center
Millennium Room
39155 Liberty St., Suite A110, Fremont

Saturday, May 31
10:30 a.m. – Noon
Fruitvale-San Antonio Senior Center
3301 E. 12th St., Oakland
(Spanish and Chinese translation provided)

Wednesday, June 4
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Hayward City Hall
Conference Room 2A
777 B St., Hayward

Thursday, June 5
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Maple Hall
13831 San Pablo Ave., #4, San Pablo

Public Hearing

Wednesday, June 11
5 p.m.
AC Transit General Offices
1600 Franklin St., Oakland

Contact us at (510) 891-5470 or visit www.actransit.org/public-hearings

LECTURES & LIT

LECTURES

Containing Affects of Mind/Working with [illegible] in Psychoanalysis & Psychotherapy Day-long program including a paper presentation by Dr. Kenneth Cartwright, head of the Centre for Applied Psychology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a discussion with Dr. Charles [illegible] and a case presentation by Dr. Mary Margaret [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. [illegible] Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. $15-[illegible]. [illegible]

Delving in the Work of [illegible]: Ruskin and William Morris Today Panel of speakers explore Ruskin and Morris. With a keynote lecture by Clive Wilmer, Master of the Guild of St George. Sat., May 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. $45-$50. Women's Club, 2110 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-848-3227. [illegible]

Invisible Hands: Voices from the Global Economy Corinne Goria, the editor of *Invisible Hands*, will discuss the connection of environmental sustainability and social justice. Mon., June 2, 7-8 p.m. free. [illegible] Center, 2180 [illegible] Way, Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

Julia Morgan: An American Architect in Paris Talk by [illegible], who is completing a [illegible] Julia Morgan. Thu., May 29, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Berkeley City College, 2050 Center St., Berkeley. [illegible]

Living with Mountain Lions Wild cat [illegible] and [illegible] Zara McDonald [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 1-2:30 p.m. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library.HaywardCA.gov

[illegible] Peled The author of the autobiographical book *The General's Son* will share his vision for transforming the Israeli apartheid [illegible] and a Jewish democracy. Thu., May 29, 6-8 p.m. Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. 925-934-3135. MDPJC.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Art [illegible] Society [illegible] [illegible] performance [illegible] Oakland community of Bay Area writers. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. [illegible] 477 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible].

Asian Pacific [illegible] Festival [illegible]

[illegible] for Jerome and their Jerome. Sat., May 31, 2-4 p.m. free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-526-3720. AClibrary.org

[illegible] Collective [illegible] Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. [illegible] 1801 Park St., [illegible]

[illegible] Colbert and the [illegible] In conversation [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 7:30 p.m. [illegible], 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. [illegible]

[illegible] Storytelling Presents [illegible] Fri., May 30, 8-10 p.m., $10-$20. [illegible] 14th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

[illegible] The author discusses her [illegible] series. Mon., June [illegible]. Richmond Public Library [illegible] 325 Washington Avenue, Richmond. 510-620-6567. [illegible]

The East Bay Mystery Readers' Group Visit website for monthly titles. First Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. [illegible] Books, 3318 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-832-4438. [illegible]

Free Book Exchange [illegible] books of all genres. Saturdays, Sundays, [illegible] free. 510-705-1200. [illegible] Free Book Exchange, [illegible] Ave., El Cerrito. 510-705-1200. [illegible]

Full Moon [illegible] Climate [illegible] [illegible] discussion. Fri., May 30, 7-8 p.m., [illegible] $5 for Oakland, [illegible] 2306 [illegible] St., Berkeley.

[illegible] [illegible] *Tree of Life*, [illegible]. Fri., May 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m., $10-$20 suggested donation. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-6830.

[illegible] Reads from her novel [illegible]. Mon., June 2, 7 p.m. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BooksInc.net/Berkeley

[illegible] and Heriberto Yépez A celebration for *Eye of Witness: A Jerome Rothenberg Reader*. [illegible] by the [illegible] in collaboration with Heriberto Yépez. Thu., May 29, 7:30 p.m. [illegible] Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-2367. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] of Asian Pacific [illegible] as they perform [illegible] youths in [illegible]

in America. Sun., June 1, 2-4 p.m. free. Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St., Oakland. 510-637-0455. OACC.cc

Kathryn Ma Reads from her novel, *The Year She Left Us*. Mon., June 2, 7 p.m. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210, GreatGoodPlace.indiebound.com.

Liane Moriarty Reads from her novel, *The Husband's Secret*. Tue., June 3, 7 p.m. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210, GreatGoodPlace.indiebound.com.

Mystery Reading Group Discussion of mystery novels, facilitated by [illegible] author Camille Minichino. First Tuesday of every month, 6:30-8 p.m. Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley. 510-667-7900. AClibrary.org

Poetry [illegible] Readings A weekly poetry series and open mic. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. [illegible] Restaurant, [illegible] University Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

Poetry Express Featuring Bay Area writers on the first Sunday of each month with a brief open mic. First Sunday of every month, 5-10 p.m. Art House Gallery & Cultural Center, 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-472-3170. BerkeleyArtHouse.WordPress.com

Poetry Writing Workshop with Christina Hutchins The Albany poet and author [illegible] writing workshop. Wed., June 4, 6:30-8 p.m. free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-526-3720. AClibrary.org

[illegible] Reads from [illegible]. Wed., June 4, 7 p.m. Books Inc. Alameda, 1344 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-2226. BooksInc.net/Alameda.

Healing Workshops for Survivors of Violence [illegible] writing workshop that centers the survivor of violence as the expert in the ways that violence affects the self, relationships with others, and [illegible]. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Continues through May 30. [illegible] Martial Arts Academy, [illegible] Santa Clara Avenue, Oakland. 510-[illegible].

Youth Speaks Workshop Youth Speaks' [illegible] leads this writing and performance workshop [illegible]. Tuesdays, 4-5:30 p.m. Continues through June 24. free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

PUBLIC INTEREST

Ashby Village International Open Sector [illegible] community-based network of people age 50 [illegible] in the greater Berkeley area. Sun., June 1, 1-2:30 p.m. free. First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. [illegible]

Andria Lo

PICKS

Oakland

Listening Sessions

In the face of Oakland's serious, devastating, and sometimes seemingly intractable violence problem, it's easy to feel like there's no end in sight. But listening — to ourselves, to each other, to history — is a damn good start. That's the idea behind the Oakland Listening Sessions, a series of seven workshops being put on this summer and fall by a coalition of local nonprofits with the goal of "[catalyzing] action and [holding] politicians accountable to low income constituents of color who are directly affected and in need of solutions that reflect their experiences and priorities." The full series will include sessions focused on performance and storytelling, but this week's — the series' second, held at the Oakland Library's West Oakland Branch (1801 Adeline St.) — will center around coming up with grassroots policy recommendations. — *Ellen Cushing*

Saturday, May 31, 2-5 p.m., free. BayPeace.com/Listening

Kathryn Ma

Three generations of Chinese-American women living in San Francisco contend with family, identity, dislocation, and each other. If that plot summary sounds familiar, it should. And indeed, on the surface, Kathryn Ma's debut novel has much in common with *The Joy Luck Club* and the lineage of what might unpolitely be called Assimilation Lit that followed it. But just like its protagonist — the unruly Ari, orphaned in China and adopted in the US — *The Year She Left Us* has a complicated relationship with its ancestry. Ultimately, it's a winking, wry play on the *Joy Luck* genre: strong-minded, self-aware, deeply modern, and utterly original. Ma, a San Franciscan, reads from it this week at a Great Good Place for Books (6120 La Salle Ave., Oakland). — E.C.

Monday, June 2, 7 p.m., free. GreatGoodPlace.Indiebound.com

[illegible] exploring a variety of options to [illegible] Oakland. Thu., May 29, 7-8 p.m. $95 for the series. [illegible] Theaters, 1454 [illegible] Street, Berkeley. 510-[illegible]

Food Not Bombs General Meeting Planning meeting for upcoming and ongoing Food Not Bombs meals. First Wednesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. free. Long Haul, 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-0751. TheLongHaul.org.

Lawyers in the Library [illegible] provided on a first-come first-served basis. Sign-in begins at 4:45 p.m. Call 510-597-5017 to confirm event. First Tuesday of every month, 5-7 p.m. free. [illegible] Public Library [illegible] Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland. 510-597-5017. OaklandLibrary.org.

Mayor's Town Hall Meeting on [illegible] Mayor Jean Quan, [illegible] Chief Sean Whent and OUSD Superintendent [illegible] in conversation on public safety in Oakland. Sun., June 1, 1-3 p.m. St. Anthony's Church, 1535 16th Ave., Oakland.

The Oakland Listening Sessions Series of seven community gatherings responding to institutional and community violence including a [illegible] network with [illegible] network and a policy [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 2-5 p.m. free. Oakland Public Library, West Oakland Branch, 1801 Adeline St., Oakland. 510-238-7352. OaklandLibrary.org.

Startup Weekend [illegible] startup event where participants pitch their startup ideas and receive feedback. [illegible] Fri., May 30, 6 p.m.; Sat., May 31; Sun., June 1. $25-$99. Cal State East Bay, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward. 510-885-3000. CSUEastBay.edu

Toastmasters International @ UC Berkeley Toast of Berkeley welcomes [illegible] of all experience levels who are interested in becoming more confident and effective public speakers. Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. free. [illegible] UC Berkeley, Berkeley.

[illegible] Toastmasters Toastmasters International is a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of [illegible]. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. free. [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

SPOKEN WORD

The Berkeley Slam [illegible] spoken word and a [illegible]. Cash prizes each week. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. $7. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. [illegible]

[illegible] Poetry Slam and Open Mic Hosted by [illegible] Slam Champion [illegible]. First and third Sunday of every month, 6:30-9 p.m. $5-$7. [illegible] Grand Lake Coffee House, 448 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-922-1587

Hella Dank [illegible] Thursdays Open mic poetry [illegible]. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Donation requested. Eastside Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-533-[illegible]. EastsideArtsAlliance.com

Saturday Night Speakin' East Bay Open Mic A monthly open mic hosted by [illegible]. Last Saturday of every month, 7-9 p.m. free. Nick's Lounge, [illegible] Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. NicksLounge.com.

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The pleasures of the bison tartare are mostly textural

Chris Duffey

FRENCH BISTRO, OAKLAND-STYLE

Michel Bistro brings a slice of the south of France to Lakeshore Avenue

By Luke Tsai

For frequent restaurant-goers in Oakland, it often feels like all the world's cuisines are within reach — unless what you crave is a proper French bistro.

Michel Bistro, which opened in the Grand Lake neighborhood in April, is a welcome arrival then. Owned by Germain Michel, who also runs Amélie (a wine bar with locations in San Francisco and New York) and his business partner Jean Michel Fabregon, who oversees the bar program, the restaurant is unobtrusive-looking from the outside. But the interior is surprisingly spacious — bright and airy, with exposed wood beams and multiple skylights that bring to mind a rustic hunting lodge. Mostly, though, the place just feels very French. At the slightest sign a customer might be a French speaker, the garçons servers switch gears and do the whole transaction in their native tongue. (They suspected me of no such thing.) Dialogue from Marius, a classic Marcel Pagnol film set on the Marseilles waterfront, is printed on one wall — a tribute to the restaurant's focus on the food and drink of Southern France, Michel explained.

The food tastes very French indeed. But chef Anthony Salguero (who previously cooked at Plumed Horse in Saratoga and at San Francisco's Commonwealth) also draws heavily on the Bay Area's storied Cal-French tradition. Rustic bistro dishes are made slightly lighter and brighter, with local and seasonal ingredients.

Take the bison tartare, which replaces the traditional raw minced beef with bison — chosen because of the meat's leanness and subtly gamey flavor, Salguero said — that's coarsely hand-chopped. The dish struck a fine balance between the savoriness of the meat and the vinegary tang of the various pickled elements, but the pleasures it offered were mostly textural. The main elements — the bison, the long-stemmed caper berries (a mellower substitute for caper buds, which are more common), and the whole mustard grains (which Salguero pickles in-house) — all "pop," caviar-like, in your mouth.

If you really want to test a French chef's cooking chops, order the soup. One spoonful of the green-garlic cream soup that was on offer during my first visit was enough to convince me of the kitchen's pedigree. I loved its velvety texture, and the deeply earthy, almost mushroom-like, flavor of the leek-and-green-garlic stock. A dollop of tangy goat cheese; fresh cherries; and a scattering of smoky Serrano ham "chips" completed the complex, well-balanced dish. Slices of rustic bread — which came, quaintly, in a burlap sack — saved me the embarrassment of having to lick the bowl.

Michel Bistro
3343 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland
510-836-8737
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Sample Menu

Green Garlic Soup	$7
Bison Tartare	$13
Moules Frites	$18
Lamb Burger	$14
Pain Perdu	$13

For another stunner of a first course, a long marrow bone was split lengthwise, then roasted until its insides were soft and jiggly. The accompaniments made all the difference: thick slices of toast, which we spread with cloves of roasted garlic and some of the marrow, which was topped with horseradish and, for a bit of acid, some citrusy wild sorrel.

Entrees, too, mostly consisted of subtle riffs on classic bistro dishes. The *moules frites* featured perfectly cooked mussels — small, plump, and sweet — that were served in a tasty Pernod-infused broth that was brightened by the inclusion of preserved lemon rind. The fries were hot and crisp, and served with a simple aioli. The portion size was generous — but not dishearteningly so.

For a trout entrée, the fillet was seared, skin side down, until a beautiful crust formed, leaving the flesh underneath tender and moist, if a bit underseasoned. I liked the "*Lyonnaise*"-style potato salad that came with the trout — crispy potatoes; thick cubes of bacon; lightly dressed salad greens; and O-shaped, slightly sour green almonds — but wished for some kind of sauce to bring it all together.

And the lamb burger was good enough that I'd go back just for that: a thick patty (70-percent lamb and 30-percent beef, Salguero said) topped with aged English cheddar and sweet, slow-cooked onions infused with Vadouvan curry, all served on a Petite Pains poppy-seed bun. The combination of flavors — salty, sweet, cumin-y — was excellent, without overwhelming the natural sweetness of the lamb itself.

The beverage list focuses on pastis, an anise-flavored French liqueur that is especially popular in Provence. There's also a streamlined all-French wine list, divided into three price categories, with each wine available in four serving sizes. If, like me, you're often content to share a half-bottle of a simple table wine, there are six to choose from, and it'll only set you back $13.

On the other hand, desserts don't appear to be the restaurant's strong point. During our visit there were two basic options, and the one we tried, the chocolate fondant, was a pretty standard-order molten lava cake whose only flourishes — a sprinkle of lime zest and salt — added a bizarre, margarita-like flavor to the mix.

Michel Bistro does, however, serve a damn good, if still slightly under-the-radar, weekend brunch. The *pain perdu* was great. Thick slices of rich, not-too-sweet, batter-dipped brioche were pan-fried until the edges crisped, then topped with macerated strawberries and several dollops of *crème anglaise* that pooled on the bottom of the plate like melted vanilla ice cream.

Eggs Benedict, served on a long slice of rustic bread with the crusts cut off, had a scattering of over-dressed arugula I could have done without, but the core components — tender asparagus spears; thick, tangy hollandaise; Serrano ham; and, best of all, two wonderfully oozy-yolked poached eggs — were close to perfect.

While no one would fault you for going the typical mimosa route, for a morning drink that's fairly uncommon at restaurants outside of France, try a *citron pressé*, the lemon lover's lemonade: A half-glass of straight lemon juice served on the rocks for you to doctor up with sugar and water as you please.

For lunchtime brunch-eaters, there are several sandwich options, including that lamb burger. And would you believe me if I told you that a plate of bison tartare makes for a refreshing — dare I say reinvigorating — start to the day?

I'm told the French have known this for years. For the rest of us, it's one of many pleasant surprises waiting to reveal themselves at Michel Bistro. ●

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WHAT THE FORK

THE KINGFISH IS MOVING

Plus, an app for settling the check launches in the Bay Area, and Los Cilantros opens in South Berkeley

By Luke Tsai

First, the bad news: The Kingfish Pub (5227 Claremont Ave., Oakland), a beloved dive bar in Temescal, is going to have to move in order to make way for a new condominium complex.

The good news: The pub's owners have already found a new home for the tiny 92-year-old bait-shop-turned-watering-hole, practically right across the street. Later this year, they hope to move the Kingfish — to literally pick the whole building up and set it down at the new site. If all goes according to plan, the new Kingfish will be the same as the old — the same green paint job, shack-like exterior, oversized 7-Up sign, and happy customers.

Talk of demolishing the Kingfish in order to make way for condos has been going on for years, but the project was waylaid due to the down economy. Now, the owners of the property have sold it to developers who are moving forward with the plan, and they've given the pub their ten-month notice.

Owners Mike Bowler and Emil Peinert — two longtime bar patrons who took over the Kingfish's lease in 2009, saving the pub from being lost to history a first time — hope the proposed move will save it again. They've agreed on terms to purchase an unused building at 5239 Telegraph Avenue, a former Ethiopian restaurant located next door to the Tool Lending Library. The plan, Bowler said, is to tear down the restaurant and put the Kingfish in its place. There should even be enough room to add a small patio in back.

Bowler and Peinert said they hope to complete the move sometime in the fall. In the meantime, the Kingfish will remain open at its current spot.

All of that is pending city approval, of course. As daunting as the idea of picking up an entire building and moving it sounds, Peinert said that will be the easy part. "The red tape is probably actually more challenging than the physical process," he said.

Because of the Kingfish's designation as a historical building, Peinert expects that he and Bowler won't be required to make extensive upgrades before they reopen the pub. They'll add an ADA-compliant bathroom and make a few safety improvements, but otherwise the building will remain largely unchanged.

For bar regulars, some of whom have been frequenting the Kingfish for decades, that can only be a good thing. "We're planning on keeping the shack looking like the shack it is," Bowler said.

Uber for Restaurants

Anyone who's ever been frustrated while attempting to hail a waiter to pay the bill at the end of a meal might want to try Cover, an app that allows diners to settle their check via smartphone. Eight months after its initial launch in New York, Cover made its Bay Area debut last week, starting with an initial roster of about twenty mostly high-end restaurants, including Daniel Patterson's three Oakland establishments: Haven, Plum Bar, and the newly revamped Ume.

According to Cover co-founder Mark Egerman, the idea behind the app is to make the process of paying at a restaurant as seamless as possible. "Cover is a way for restaurants to provide the best experience for customers — to take the dining experience and make it feel special," he said, adding that the service was inspired by the popular car-hailing app Uber.

Like Uber, Cover stores users' credit card information and a default tip percentage. Once seated at the restaurant, you check in and alert your server that you're using the app. At the end of the meal, you can sip your coffee or digestif at your leisure, and then simply walk away.

Your credit card gets charged automatically and you never even look at an itemized check. (This, of course, also means you're trusting the restaurant to get the bill right.) For group diners, the app will split the check — evenly by default, though you can adjust those settings.

Egerman stressed that unlike Uber, Cover isn't a "luxury product," and diners don't pay anything for the service. Instead, the company makes money by charging the restaurants a percentage fee that's comparable to the processing fees they'd otherwise have to pay to the credit card companies. In an email, Patterson said Cover integrated seamlessly into his restaurants' existing payment systems.

Cover is one of a handful of mobile-payment systems currently vying to make inroads in the Bay Area. Other contenders include Tabbed Out, which has less of a fine-dining focus, and the online-reservations behemoth OpenTable, which is piloting a payment app of its own.

Mexican Newcomer

A Mexican restaurant called Los Cilantros has opened inside La Peña Cultural Center (3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley), Inside Scoop reported. Chef-owner Dilsa Lugo, a longtime caterer, was able to open the restaurant with the help of La Cocina, the San Francisco-based food business incubator. The breakfast menu, which includes quesadillas *estilo tres marías* (fried breakfast quesadillas stuffed with green peppers and Oaxacan cheese) and *molletes* (toasted Acme bread covered with refried beans and other toppings), looks especially interesting. Current hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. ●

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

The new Kingfish will look just like this. Luke Tsai

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RESTAURANTS & CAFES

French Cuisine

A Côte

5478 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6469. This cozy restaurant pretends to serve modest little plates of French and Italian-inspired food. Like risotto balls (saffron-flavored and stuffed with braised veal). Or pizza (otherwise known as "asparagus and crescenza cheese flatbread with spring onions"). For a small plates restaurant the portions are humongous, and so are the flavors. Except when it comes to the french fries. There are never enough french fries. $$$

Barkada

4316 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-7314. Although it started as a quaint boutique bakery-cafe — a collaboration between co-owners Christina Bonilla, a pastry chef, and Rick Yarumi, a coffee enthusiast — Barkada is now a full-service sit-down restaurant. Coffee and pastries (including some of the best chocolate croissants in town) are still a big draw, but it's the cafe's ambitious dinner and weekend brunch menus that set the place apart. The goal is to showcase the breads and other baked goods from the bakery side of the business, but Barkada offers food options that extend beyond just salads and sandwiches. The highlight of the dinner menu is a selection of excellent super crisp, individual portion pizzettes (several of which are priced at just $5 — an absurd bargain — during happy hour). For brunch, Barkada's decadent corned beef benedict — served, of course, atop house-made English muffin — is a must-order. $$

Bistro Liaison

1849 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2155. Warm, bustling Liaison has a thick French accent — the oxblood leather banquettes and country crockery knickknacks on the walls seem like they were ripped from the heart of a Parisian bistro. Chef Todd Kneiss shows off his fondness for age-old favorites like boeuf bourguignon and cream-braised sole stuffed with crab, but gives other Frog-friendly dishes, such as quail stuffed with black truffle risotto, a fresher Californian spin. $$-$$$

Cafe Clem

2020 Kittredge St., Berkeley, 510-280-9681. Cafe Clem brings a bit of Parisian charm to downtown Berkeley with its antiques (and kitsch) red-tiled interior and pleasant outdoor terrace. The order-at-the-counter cafe is popular with the Berkeley High lunch crowd, but because it lacks a full kitchen — unlike its sister restaurant, La Note — you're better off sticking to salads and sandwiches. The croque monsieur, while not traditional, is a good riff on a grilled ham and cheese, and the delicious saucisson beurre features high-quality imported French salami on a well-toasted and buttered baguette. Avoid items that would normally be cooked on a stovetop, like scrambled eggs. Meanwhile, an extensive pastry display case features products from a host of local bakeries. $

Cafe Jolie

1500 Webster St., Alameda, 510-523-4500. Chef-owner Joann Guitarte calls Cafe Jolie a "French American bistro," meaning the menu is a mixed bag: chicken strips and Cobb salad and a run-of-the-mill selection of egg dishes alongside pastries imported straight from France. Lunch offerings tend to be stronger than most breakfast options, including a solid croque monsieur (with béchamel served on the side) and a surprisingly tasty all-breast-meat chicken burger on a toasted brioche bun. Dinner is served Thursday through Saturday. The space itself is bright and pleasant, and there's a nice sidewalk patio area for those who enjoy dining al fresco. $-$$

Cafe Rouge

1782 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-525-1440. Berkeley's well-coiffed and well-to-do have taken Cafe Rouge to heart. It's a classic Californian restaurant, complete with all the trappings: organic vegetables and sustainably raised meats, a wood-fired oven, and smooth and efficient service. Chef-owner Marsha McBride and executive chef Rick DeBeaord create deceptively simple food, but imbue even their hamburgers with juicy meaty love. $$-$$$

Chez Panisse

1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5525 downstairs or 510-548-5049 cafe. The little house in Berkeley where Alice Waters served her first French *prix fixe* back in 1971 is still the epicenter of Northern California's local foods movement. The nominally more formal downstairs dining room serves a nightly menu that, as always, is like a GPS locator for the current season. Meanwhile, the upstairs cafe feels a bit like a museum devoted to California Cuisine. Wood-fired pizzas still wear unorthodox toppings (nettle and anchovies, say). Then again, baked goat cheese with garden lettuces has been around so long it feels familiar in the way the best things are — the way that constantly delights. $$$-$$$$

Chez Simone

4125 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-1034. For more than twenty years Simone Herault has been cooking simple dishes from her homeland for diners on the Piedmont strip, and she hasn't changed her formula since she opened. There's been no need: tiny Chez Simone is a mighty tasty charmer, and part of the charm comes from the chef-proprietor herself. The minuscule menu offers quiches, omelets, and crepes plus a couple of more substantial daily specials. Spend a night on the second-floor landing with its rickety tables, vine-covered trellis, and fairy lights, and you'll fall under Simone's spell. $$

District

827 Washington St., Oakland, 510-272-9200. For the longest time, it's been de rigueur to say a place has good food *for a bar* — a backhanded compliment if I've ever heard one. District, a wine bar in Old Oakland, has good food, period — especially chef Bob Cina's playful interpretations of French bistro fare. The steak tartare, for instance, is one of the best in the city — coarsely hand-cut, topped with a fried quail egg, and seasoned with mellow, fruity violet mustard. District's house-made charcuterie also is not to be missed, especially the slightly boozy truffled chicken-liver mousse. And customers just grabbing a quick snack at the bar could do worse than an order of fries, a textbook-perfect version served with a surprisingly light truffled Parmesan aioli for dipping. $$-$$$

Gregoire

2109 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-883-1893; 4001 B Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-547-3444. At Gregoire Jacquet's minuscule takeout restaurant, the affable Frenchman cooks all the food to order. You'll have trouble making it home with your stack of warm, heavenly smelling cardboard boxes without taking at least one peek. (Don't try to keep your hands off the crispy cheesy potato puffs, because they're best straight out of the fryer.) Lunch features a bevy of memorable sandwiches; dinners are more expensive, almost casual, restaurant-style *entrées* like rack of lamb. $-$$

La Note

2377 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1535. Earth-toned decor lends a Provençal air

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

Aria Grill & Cuisine
308 14th St., Oakland, 510-893-2142. In a stretch of downtown Oakland where dining options are slim, especially during dinner hours, a small cluster of halal-friendly Middle Eastern restaurants has been a godsend for many hungry souls in search of a satisfying meal at the end of a hard day's work. And if what you're in the mood for is grilled meats, then Aria — a cozy, tapestry-bedecked restaurant at the corner of 14th and Harrison streets — is the spot for you. Try the chile-dusted lamb chops, cooked to the diner's preference, which are flavorful and juicy, especially when ordered medium rare. And the chapli kebab (thin, jalapeño-laced ground-beef patties) boast crunchy charred edges and an addictive, lingering heat. The restaurant also serves excellent Afghan steamed dumplings: mantu (filled with savory ground beef) and aushak (filled with chopped leeks), which both come topped with yogurt and a spicy, delicious tomato-lentil-and-beef sauce. $-$$

Trabocco
2213 South Shore Center, Alameda, 510-521-1152, Trabocco.com. At this upscale Italian restaurant located in an Alameda shopping center, chef Giuseppe Naccarelli makes his rounds through the dining room, and out onto the covered outdoor patio, every half-hour or so, to greet guests with a hearty "buona sera." It's not just the hospitality, but also the quality of the food, that's better (albeit pricier) than what you'd expect to find in a suburban shopping plaza. The menu focuses on dishes that are characteristic of Naccarelli's native Abruzzo region, and some of the best items are the appetizers — try the baccalà (salt cod) and roasted peppers served atop cubes of crispy-oozy fried polenta, or the segments of grilled octopus tossed with sliced fennel and lemon juice. The handmade cocoa powder-infused chitarrine with a savory rabbit ragu is the highlight of the pasta list, and pasta-and-potato types will appreciate the daily selection of rotisserie meats cooked over a wood fire. $$$

Great China
2190 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-843-7996, GreatChinaBerkeley.com. After suffering a fire, this titan of regional Chinese cookery has reopened in a new modern-looking space located around the corner from its previous location. Now the creaky charm of the original dining room has been supplanted by sleek minimalism, and an actual host stand has replaced the old front-of-house system (a pad of paper). Most importantly, the food is better than ever. The restaurant is best known for its Peking duck — a showstopper of a dish — but the menu offers an abundance of other more understated pleasures: delicate fish dumplings; tiny tempura-battered fried oysters; steamed surf clams served on the half-shell topped with oil and scallions, and sautéed Dungeness crab that you spoon into puffy steamed buns, like a Chinese reinterpretation of a crab roll. And although much of its award-winning wine collection was lost in the fire, Great China remains a worthy destination for oenophiles — a rarity among Chinese restaurants. $$-$$$

Crossburgers
300 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Ste. 130, Oakland, 510-817-4403, Crossburgers.com. The concept at Crossburgers, broadly writ, is Northern California Diner — burgers and other fast-food fare with a handful of farmers' market-driven, Slow Food-style embellishments: kale slaw on the sandwiches, Niman Ranch hot dogs, and a beets-and-goat-cheese salad. There is an appealing playfulness to chef Eddie Blyden's menu offerings — fun, hybridized versions of standards such as a Cuban sandwich and a chili-topped Coney Island Hot Dog. The signature Crossburger boasts the kind of thoughtfully conceived components that you might expect at a slightly fancier restaurant: a soft, eggy challah bun, oozy melted American cheese; and an habanero-spiked secret sauce that gives the burger its red-hot "crossness." The fries are well seasoned and served piping hot. And the black-eyed pea chili, made with smoked ham hocks and ground chuck, is simply phenomenal — perfectly balanced between soupy and chunky, with enough heat to make you sweat. $$

while a casual and often elbow-to-elbow crowd revels in its belief that no amount of Frenchification is enough. A garden patio lures brunchers, who tuck into egg specialties, pancakes, baguette sandwiches, and more. Dinner specialties such as spicy merguez sausage and ratatouille really do resemble what you'd find on a menu in France. $$-$$$

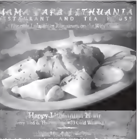
Lalimes
1329 Gilman St., Berkeley, 510-527-9838. One of Berkeley's most Berkeley spots. Each month's menu highlights what local farmers have on hand. The building, a converted house, is a little cozy and a little tony, while the attentive service shows just why Lalime's has lasted 25 years. The predominantly older clientele looks to have been visiting since the restaurant opened, and seems the appeal is in the familiarity. $$$

Nizza la Bella
825 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-2552. This casual bistro, whose name means "Nice, the Beautiful" in Niçoise dialect, serves up regional food that fuses Southern French and Northern Italian cuisine. Try anything that comes out of the wood-fired oven. Fortunately, that's a lot — pizzas, roast meats, gratineed pastas, and even stews and mussels. Some people come just for the Franco-Italo-American cocktails. $$$

Rendez Vous Cafe Bistro
1111 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-527-4111. This friendly, colorful Albany hangout serves up classic examples of French bistro fare, some of them on the fancy side, others perfectly soulful and satisfying. The daube (braised beef) and coq au vin (chicken in red wine) are rich, tender and tasty; brie- and garlic-stuffed gougère puffs make a delectable appetizer. (The onion soup and bouillabaisse are best avoided.) Get the towering strawberry shortcake with strawberry ice cream for dessert. Generous, affordable portions. $$

Rivoli
1539 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-2542. Chef Wendy Brucker's inventive Cal-Mediterranean cooking continues to delight after sixteen years, even if a few of the kitchen's more complex taste-texture combinations are less focused than they could be. The regularly changing menu highlights seasonal organic and locally raised ingredients in dishes like spring-carrot gnocchi with English peas; grilled salmon with snap-pea risotto; and chicken roulade with asparagus, couscous, and pine nuts. The warm chocolate pecan cake is dreamy. Well-selected wine list; lovely garden setting. $$$$

Price Key
Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately: $ — up to $10 per person; $$ — $10-$25; $$$ — $25-$50; $$$$ — more than $50.



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Eats, Beats & Brews [illegible] featuring live music, an outdoor beer garden by Drakes Brewing, and international foods. On Center St. [illegible] Oxford St. and [illegible] Ave. Starting Jun. 1, Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through June 29. Free.

Farmstead Wine Tasting A bi-weekly wine tasting with [illegible] Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., Saturdays, 3-5 p.m. Fridays 6-7:30 p.m. $1 per flight. Farmstead [illegible] 5218 La Salle Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

Get [illegible] Food Market Featuring food trucks, tents, carts, and other producers — including [illegible] BBQ, Peter's [illegible] Cart, [illegible] (Italian ice), Kau Kau Corner (Hawaiian-Filipino comfort foods), and Boulah's Bean Truck (coffee and dog treats). Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. College of Alameda, 555 [illegible] Ave. Alameda. 510-522-7221. AlamedaPirates.edu.

Honey Harvesting Participants will uncap frames of honeycomb and hand-spin them in an extractor to expel the honey. Sun., June 1, 3-5 p.m. $30. Sticky Art Lab, 1682 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. StickyArtLab.com.

Mi Sabor y Food With Pequeño Tiempo and [illegible]. May 30, 8 p.m. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

[illegible] Cooking with [illegible] [illegible] demonstrates simple [illegible] based in Taiwanese cooking and Asian [illegible] Sun., June 1, 2:30-6:30 p.m. $75-$85. [illegible] 1445 4th St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

Off the Grid [illegible] food trucks, crafts, DJs, and music, kids' activities, and [illegible] Fridays, 5-9 p.m., free. [illegible] of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 415-[illegible]. MuseumCA.org.

Off the Grid: [illegible] Oakland Featuring ten or more food trucks every week. Sundays, 5-9 p.m. North Berkeley BART, 1750 Sacramento St., Oakland. Bart.gov/stations/ntbk.

San Leandro Weekly Festival [illegible] with food [illegible] beer booths, live entertainment, handmade and used crafts, a [illegible], Kids Zone with rides and [illegible] booths, and a Farmers' Market with lots of [illegible]. Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Casa Peralta [illegible] 384 West Estudillo Ave., San Leandro.

Spice Monkey 6th Anniversary With passed tapas, drink specials, and a raffle. Thu., May 29, 6-9 p.m. $6. Spice Monkey Cafe, 1628 Webster St., Oakland. 510-250-6100. SpiceMonkeyCafe.com.

Tunes Off Broadway Featuring food trucks, [illegible] including [illegible] Fist to Pivot, The Taikun, [illegible], Kenny's Heart and Soul, [illegible] Cupcake Academy, and more. Plus, [illegible], live music, and [illegible] Fridays, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. [illegible] Broadway [illegible]

[illegible] 40th St., Oakland. 510-897-6027. StudioGrowlersOakland.net.

The Supper Club Featuring dinner by Royal Raspberry Catering and an exploration of the interactive [illegible] market and space craft simulator. Sat., May 31, 6-9 p.m. $40 for [illegible], $45 for [illegible], admission. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

Through Berkeley Wine Tasting Try five [illegible] for $5 at [illegible] the Vine St. and [illegible] Ave. stores. Check Facebook page earlier in the day for details on what [illegible] will be poured that day. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. $5. Vintage Berkeley, 2113 Vine St., Berkeley. 510-665-8600.

Wine, Beer and Cheese Celebration to [illegible] of the National [illegible] of Abortion Funds (NNAF) and Oakland's local fund, ACCESS Women's Health Justice. Thu., May 29, 6-8 p.m. $20. [illegible] 5714 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Facebook.com/[illegible].

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus locally [illegible]. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda.

BAHN [illegible] Fresh Market [illegible] Produce [illegible] Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m., free. 510-845-7264. EcologyCenter.org. Bay Area Hispano Institute for Advancement, 1718 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

Bayfair Center Farmers' Market Fresh produce supplied by local organic and specialty farmers. Tuesdays, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., free. [illegible] Park, Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 800-[illegible]. ShopBayfair.com.

Civic Plaza Union City Farmers' Market With fruits, vegetables, and greens, as well as freshly baked breads, and [illegible] specialty foods, fresh flowers, and more. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Union City BART, 10 Union Square, Union City. 510-[illegible]. BART.gov/stations/ucty.

Fruitvale Farmers' Market With affordable produce from Alameda's farmers, Fruitvale, and local urban farmers, as well as [illegible] goods from local [illegible]. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. [illegible] 3000 [illegible] Ave., Oakland. 510-371-[illegible].

Fruitvale Farmers' Market With locally grown and prepared fruit, vegetables, bread, produce, and more, [illegible] WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-535-[illegible]. Fruitvale BART station, 3401 East 12th St., Oakland.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market The weekly market [illegible] food, [illegible] locally grown [illegible] foods, and arts and crafts vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 800-897-3276. UrbanVillageOnline.com/[illegible] Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

Hayward City Hall Farmers' Market A farmers' market [illegible] locally grown and produced [illegible] from over 35 [illegible] and [illegible] food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-897-3276. AgriculturalInstitute.org, produce. City Hall, 777 B St., Hayward. 510-583-4000. [illegible]

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market With [illegible] selling locally grown California produce at the main [illegible] to the hospital. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With [illegible] selling fresh, all-organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Oakland, 3600 Broadway St., Oakland.

Kensington Farmers' Market With a variety of fresh flowers, an organic [illegible] produce, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, flowers, bread, flowers, fresh pasta, and [illegible] supplies. The market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-847-0800. KensingtonFarmersMarket.org. Colusa Circle, off the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Montclair Village Farmers' Market Featuring breads, produce and prepared foods. Free parking in Village garage at the top of La Salle Avenue. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. MontclairVillage.com/farmers_market.html. Downtown Montclair Village, LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With breads, specialty foods, all-organic produce, and more for sale, along with special programs and events. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

North Oakland Children's Hospital Farmers' Market EBT and WIC okay. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-290-7807. PlantFarmsProduce.org. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

[illegible] Farmers' Market With seasonal, organic produce from Bay Area farms and [illegible] goods. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. [illegible] Oakland Farmers' Market, 6715 [illegible], Oakland.

Old Oakland Farmers' Market Farmers [illegible], produce, breads, [illegible] and other [illegible], along with plenty of produce. Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Old Oakland Farmers' Market, 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St., Oakland. [illegible]

Organic Produce Stand With fresh, organic fruits and vegetables. EBT cards, [illegible] as cash and credit cards accepted. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Hayward [illegible] 24100 Amador St., Hayward.

[illegible] Jack London [illegible] [illegible] With [illegible] produce, greens, nuts, freshly [illegible] bread, produce, [illegible], specialty foods, [illegible] live music, and arts and crafts for sale. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. [illegible] Square, [illegible] St., Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With fresh locally grown fruits, live chickens, flowers, eggs, and other produce. WIC and foods accepted. Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free. RichmondFarmersMarket.org. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-[illegible].

South Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh produce and other food for sale. Tuesdays, 2-6:30 p.m. South Berkeley Farmers' Market, Adeline and 63rd sts., Berkeley. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org.

Temescal Farmers' Market Alameda [illegible] farmers offer [illegible] produce and fruits and nuts, fresh [illegible] eggs, [illegible] goods, locally caught fish, [illegible] flowers, and more. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 510-745-7100. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Tuesday South Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic produce, flowers, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Tuesday produce Farmers' Market, 63rd and Adeline Streets, Berkeley. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org.

PICK

Spice Monkey Six-Year Anniversary Celebration

Spice Monkey (1628 Webster St., Oakland) is Cambodian-born restaurateur Kanitha Matoury's globe-spinning fusion-y brand of cilantro-and-coconut-speckled fun. To celebrate its six-year anniversary, a celebration on Thursday will include tapas, deeply discounted cocktails, samplings of signature house-made spices and sauces, a raffle, and more — all for the price of $6. — *Arnold Rufus*

Thursday, May 29, 6 p.m., $6. SpiceMonkeyRestaurant.com

WELCOME WAGON

Immigrant stories in New York (*Chinese Puzzle*) and Chile (*The Dance of Reality*)

By Kelly Vance

Everything looks idyllic in *Chinese Puzzle*

Some say the border between French and Hollywood commercial movies was erased a long time ago, especially when it comes to comedies, actioners, and other popular genres. We're not so certain about that. In the words of *Chinese Puzzle*'s lead character, Xavier Rousseau: "*Ce n'est pas gagné*." Loose translation: That ain't necessarily so.

In the movie, we meet perplexed Parisian novelist Xavier (Romain Duris) in the midst of breaking up with his English wife of ten years, Wendy (Kelly Reilly). She's moving back to New York with their two young kids, who have never lived anywhere but Paris. Wendy and Xavier gaze dreamily at each other as they part, and Xavier's heart aches for his children, but there's no time to drown his sorrows. He immediately packs up his laptop — handy for conferring with his publisher while lashing together a new manuscript — and follows his wayward family to NYC with a plan in mind. Xavier has a network. All the principals in this sprightly romantic comedy (French title: *Casse-tête chinois*) are from writer-director Cédric Klapisch's 2002 rom-com *L'Auberge Espagnole*, and its 2005 sequel, *Russian Dolls*.

Xavier's Brooklyn-dwelling lesbian best friend Isabelle (Cécile de France) wants a baby with her partner Ju (Sandrine Holt), and convinces him to donate the needed sperm. No problem, although we observe that a Frenchman intending to masturbate into a receptacle should remove his neck scarf first. Then there's the matter of Wendy and her new boyfriend (Peter Hermann, twice Duris' size) residing in a luxurious Midtown Manhattan condo along with Xavier's kids, who miss him. And Xavier's old girlfriend Martine (Audrey Tautou) from Barcelona and Paris, who's coming to New York for a visit with her kids and wants to get together. Meanwhile, Xavier consults a shyster immigration lawyer (the hilarious Jason Kravits) in order to stay permanently in the US, and ends up marrying an "immigration bride" named Nancy (Li Jun Li) to satisfy the visa requirements. A prickly stickler of an investigating INS agent (Peter McRobbie) comes attached as part of the deal.

Then there's the other Isabelle (Flore Bonaventura), the one who's a Belgian babysitter, and all the neighbors in New York Chinatown, where Xavier finally finds an apartment above a bakery, and the ghosts of Schopenhauer and Hegel (both played by Jochen Hägele) to console our hero. Plus the tale of the beaten cabbie, Xavier's visiting tough-guy father (Benoît Jacquot), Xavier's new job as a bicycle messenger, and, yes, the city of New York itself, in all its transitional splendor. France has emptied out and split for New York. It's a true *auberge espagnole*, which could also be translated, uncharitably but aptly, as a Chinese fire drill. Or an Irish wake, a *Katzenjammer*, or, still more uncharitably, a classic circle jerk. Duris' Xavier spreads himself thinly but gamely over the landscape. The actor has seldom been so engagingly bewildered, going back to his role as a stranger in Romania in Tony Gatlif's *Gadjo Dilo*.

Everyone in the movie looks maximally sexy. Nobody's having a bad hair day. The camera swoons over Reilly, Tautou, and de France, but Duris manages to be the center of attention without even trying, surrounded on all sides by beautiful women. If anything, New York comes across as even more idyllic than in a typical Hollywood movie, as the most fascinating place on earth, a true "world city," hipster heaven (uh-oh) with construction going on everywhere you look. Xavier's Chinatown love nest is colorful as all hell. He, the kids, and his various female companions eat Mickey D's and watch *The Simpsons* on his laptop. The hardest part about his tangled relationships is explaining it to the gosses. However, we never have to guess what Xavier is thinking — his voiceover narration continues nonstop.

Filmmaker Klapisch has pretty much always maintained a light and fluffy outlook. His first big stateside art hit was *When the Cat's Away*, a 1996 soufflé about a lost pet. With the *Auberge Espagnole* trilogy, Klapisch offers an antsy-but-cuddly alternative to Richard Linklater's more melancholy *Before* series.

In this case, at least, the French essentials — ravishing women (de France is especially glamorous), travelogue cityscapes, more bed games, matter-of-fact cosmopolitanism — give essentially the same basic date-movie material some unwarranted optimism to chew on. "Happiness is disaster for fiction," declares Xavier's publisher. Perhaps. But who truly wants to believe this is fiction?

Chinese Puzzle

Written and directed by Cédric Klapisch. With Romain Duris and Audrey Tautou. Now playing.

The Dance of Reality

Written and directed by Alejandro Jodorowsky.

The winter release of the documentary *Jodorowsky's Dune* sparked renewed interest in Chilean filmmaker Alejandro Jodorowsky and his more-or-less unique cinematic point-of-view. But he hadn't made a new motion picture in 23 years, until now. *The Dance of Reality*, Jodorowsky's wildly personal, expressionistic fantasy of growing up a Jewish Ukrainian immigrant in Chile, finally opens this week. It's everything we would expect from the maker of *El Topo* and *Santa Sangre*.

Set in the dusty, lustily grotesque little seacoast town of Tocopilla on the edge of the Atacama Desert, the story nominally traces the misadventures of young Alejandro (Jeremias Herskovits), nowhere near the craziest character in town, and his encounters with a gang of amputees, a freak-filled circus, and the municipal fire brigade, among others. Halfway through the singing, dancing, hooting narrative, we take a long side trip with Alejandro's more conflicted father Jaime (played by Brontis Jodorowsky, son of the director). Shopkeeper Jaime compensates for his outsider status by embracing Stalinism and leading a commune of workers intent on assassinating the country's fascist dictator Ibáñez (Bastián Bodenhöfer). Keeping the fire burning at home is Jaime's wife Sara (Pamela Flores), the family matriarch, who sings all her dialogue like a backwater yiddishe-mamma diva.

That mini-synopsis only scratches the surface of what has to be the zaniest foreign film of an already hyperactive year so far. Jodorowsky's cinematic sketchbook bears traces of Federico Fellini (particularly *Amarcord*) and Luis Buñuel, but the guiding force is the filmmaker's own private cosmogony. He appears throughout the film as his younger self's guardian angel, at one point saving young Alejandro from hurling himself into the roaring surf. We never quite know where a Jodorowsky film is going to take us. That's a bonus in the present age of bland predictability. It's good to have him back. ●

[illegible]@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to Zainab Mohammed@EastBayExpress.com.

OPENING

Cold in July Hot, humid nights, the 1989 Mobile, and revenge ride the shotgun seat in [illegible] by suspense-horror auteur Jim Mickle (*We Are What We Are*, *Stake Land*). [illegible] Sam Shepard and Don Johnson have a high old time [illegible] Michael C. Hall [illegible] the poor man's Matt Damon [illegible] and Nick Damici's screenplay, adapted from Joe R. Lansdale's novel. The pulpy atmosphere is stronger than the writing (109 min.). (K.V.)

The Dance of Reality [illegible] of Chilean fantasy creator Alejandro Jodorowsky's career via the "making of" documentary *Jodorowsky's Dune*, the freewheeling tale — the writer-director's first completed film since 1990 — is a delightfully skewed autobiographical look back at his family's sojourn in the small character town of Tocopilla in the 1940s. As in his trips *Santa Sangre* and *El Topo*, politics [illegible] young Alejandro (Jeremias Herskovits) and his [illegible] communist father (Brontis Jodorowsky, son of the filmmaker) suffer the slings and arrows of the immigrants' life [illegible] mother [illegible] where a Jodorowsky movie is going to take us. [illegible] ring mother Flores as the kid's operatic mother (130 min.). (K.V.)

Maleficent After a [illegible] betrayal, Maleficent (Angelina Jolie) becomes focused on revenge and curses an infant princess, only to realize later that the child holds the key to peace in the kingdom (98 min.)

A Million Ways to Die in the West Cowardly sheep farmer Albert Stark (Seth MacFarlane) begins to fall for Anna (Charlize Theron), a mysterious new gunslinger in town who helps him find his courage. However, he must put his newfound bravery to the test when Anna's outlaw husband arrives in town. (116 min.)

ONGOING

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 Lackluster sequel finds Spidey (Andrew Garfield), still tormented by his past, [illegible] with Harry Osborn (Dane DeHaan), the [illegible] of Oscorp — while also [illegible] up some personal issues [illegible] the most misunderstood villain has it: he [illegible] (Jamie Foxx) [illegible] Despite the elaborate CGI [illegible] Directed [illegible] by Marc Webb. Screenplay by Alex Kurtzman, Roberto Orci, and Jeff Pinkner (140 min.). (K.V.)

Belle The shy and wonderful [illegible] drama by director Amma Asante and screenwriter Misan Sagay starts out like any [illegible] Jane Austen-style costume-drama spectacle, but soon ventures into a pointed discussion of race, gender, and social class in 18th-century England, in its [illegible] of the life and times of a half-black young noblewoman named Dido [illegible] Belle. English actress Gugu Mbatha-Raw excels as the bright, headstrong Dido with first-rate support by Tom Wilkinson as her aristocratic uncle, Emily Watson as her aunt, Miranda Richardson as a scheming neighbor, Sarah Gadon as Dido's "sister" cousin, and Sam Reid as the [illegible] son of the local vicar. It's the second [illegible] film by actress-turned-filmmaker Asante, and it's recommended (105 min.). (K.V.)

Blended Recently divorced mom Lauren (Drew Barrymore) and widowed dad Jim (Adam Sandler) have a bad blind date, after which they find themselves stuck together at a South African resort. They and their children are forced to share the same suite and participate in a slew of family activities together. (117 min.)

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com, or by scanning the code below

M&T

Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D [illegible] Rogers, aka Capt. America (Chris Evans) [illegible] with [illegible] (Scarlett Johansson) and the Falcon [illegible] the Winter Soldier. (136 min.)

Chef Congenial [illegible] has middle-of-the-road, family-style [illegible] "R" for language [illegible] with the story of a [illegible] LA [illegible] chef [illegible] Carl (Jon Favreau, who also wrote and directs), belittled by a nasty food critic (Oliver Platt) and a bossy boss (Dustin Hoffman), who [illegible] to launch a Cuban-sandwich food truck. [illegible] Sofia Vergara as Carl's ex-wife [illegible] John Leguizamo as Carl's culinary [illegible] Scarlett Johansson [illegible] Robert [illegible] very funny [illegible] Guaranteed to leave you hungry (115 min.). (KV)

Chinese Puzzle A Parisian [illegible] and single father (Romain Duris) impulsively follows his ex-wife (Kelly Reilly) and their children to New York, [illegible] he gets [illegible] up in extra-marital, extra-curricular extravaganza, family-style [illegible] with his [illegible] best friend (Cécile de France) and her lover, his ex-girlfriend (Audrey Tautou) and her kids, a Chinese-American "immigration [illegible]," and a cheap shyster immigrant lawyer, among others. It's the [illegible] third [illegible] in the trilogy [illegible] director Cédric Klapisch began with the 2002 film *L'Auberge Espagnole* with the same [illegible] cast. [illegible] (117 min.). (KV)

The Double [illegible] office drudge Simon (Jesse Eisenberg) works [illegible] He [illegible] everything [illegible] by his [illegible] (Wallace Shawn [illegible]), a [illegible] (Yasmin Paige), the [illegible] (Mia Wasikowska), and, [illegible] his arrogant, [illegible] doppelganger. [illegible] Dostoevsky-esque. [illegible] Richard Ayoade's [illegible] adaptation of the Fyodor Dostoevsky novella [illegible] Ryu Sakamoto's "Sukiyaki" and [illegible] retro Japanese pop tunes on the soundtrack.

The Dance of Reality

than in the [illegible] plotline, the UK production [illegible] Paddy Considine, and Sally Hawkins, and [illegible] production by Ayoade and [illegible] (93 min.). (KV)

Fed Up Stephanie Soechtig's [illegible] documentary [illegible] the message [illegible] Sugar is [illegible] They [illegible] responsible for the worldwide epidemic of obesity. Sugars are attacking [illegible] from all angles, in [illegible] and especially soft drinks. And the companies that [illegible] as well as their [illegible] This doc [illegible] with plain talk from [illegible] Marion Nestle [illegible] Bill Clinton ("We've got to change the diet of America"), and other public figures alarmed by the plight [illegible] (92 min.). (KV)

Finding Vivian Maier Two [illegible] documentaries in one. Photographer/[illegible] John Maloof's profile of the enigmatic Ms. Maier [illegible] photos of street [illegible] Robert Frank and [illegible] of the late Maier's heretofore-unseen [illegible] and directed by Maloof and Charlie Siskel (83 min.). (KV)

The Galapagos Affair: Satan Came to Eden [illegible] Goldfine's [illegible] documentary explains what happened in 1930s when a pair [illegible] Galapagos. [illegible] Cate Blanchett [illegible] (120 min.). (KV)

Godzilla [illegible] The King is [illegible] Bryan Cranston, Sally Hawkins, Juliette Binoche, and [illegible] (123 min.). (KV)

The Grand Budapest Hotel Wes Anderson's [illegible] Ralph Fiennes [illegible] Tony Revolori [illegible] Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Harvey Keitel, Jude Law, Bill Murray, Saoirse Ronan, Edward Norton, Tom Wilkinson, [illegible] (100 min.). (KV)

Ida Fascinating, [illegible] 1960s [illegible] (played by Agata Trzebuchowska), and her aunt Wanda (Agata Kulesza) [illegible] director Pawel Pawlikowski [illegible] Ryszard Lenczewski [illegible] (80 min.). (KV)

The Immigrant After [illegible]

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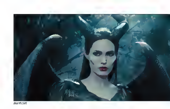

Maleficent

[illegible], a Polish nurse (Marion Cotillard) is drawn into prostitution by a theater manager (Joaquin Phoenix) who moonlights as a pimp. (117 min.)

The Lunchbox A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's lunchbox delivery system connects a young housewife to an older widower as they [illegible] their joys and [illegible] through notes in the lunchbox. (105 min.)

Million Dollar Arm In a last-ditch effort to save his failing career, sports agent J.B. Bernstein (Jon Hamm) goes to India to find a cricket player who he can convert into a major league baseball star (123 min.)

Neighbors New parents Mac (Seth Rogen) and Kelly (Rose Byrne) face unexpected challenges after a fraternity moves in next door. (97 min.)

Only Lovers Left Alive Plenty of atmosphere in Jim Jarmusch's vampire love story, but the story is threadbare. Ghostly Eve (Tilda Swinton, perfectly cast) carries on her undead lifestyle in contemporary Tangier, Morocco, where the city's purified blood — nobody bites necks anymore — [illegible] 16th-century English playwright Christopher "Kit" Marlowe (John Hurt). But Eve misses her [illegible], night-dwelling Adam (Tom Hiddleston), who occupies an apartment house in the ruins of Detroit and buys vials from a [illegible] local guy (Anton Yelchin). Eve visits Adam, they bicker, then they return to Tangier. That's about it. Writer-director Jarmusch sets the scenes perfectly. But he doesn't [illegible] a script tense to give it a better through-story. Mia Wasikowska and Jeffrey Wright round out the [illegible]. (123 min.) (K.V.)

The Other Woman New York lawyer Carly Whitten (Cameron Diaz) discovers her boyfriend is married when she meets Kate, his wife who he has been cheating on. When the two realize he is having another affair, they join forces with the third woman (Kate Upton) and plot revenge. (109 min.)

Rio 2 After blue macaws Blu (Jesse Eisenberg) and Jewel (Anne Hathaway) learn that they and their three children may not be the last Blue macaws after all, Jewel decides that they should visit the Amazon jungle where Blu meets his father-in-law (Andy Garcia) and encounters unforeseeable Nigel (Jemaine Clement). (101 min.)

Words and Pictures An art teacher and English teacher have a competition in which students vote on the [illegible] composed of words and pictures. (111 min.)

X-Men: Days of Future Past A team of [illegible] most righteous Mutants (Wolverine, Beast, [illegible] of all) time-travels back to the Vietnam War era, partly to forestall the rise of the repressive [illegible] and partly to thwart the well-meaning [illegible]. So we can see [illegible] political fantasy [illegible] these days, written [illegible] published as a comic during the Reagan presidency, then produced as a movie [illegible] administration. [illegible] a furiously intricate sci-fi entertainment. Take your pick, either way you win. The cast is the best imaginable for this sort of thing: Hugh Jackman, James McAvoy, Jennifer Lawrence, Michael Fassbender, Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen, Anna Paquin, Josh Helman, Ellen Page, and Peter Dinklage. Directed by X-professed Mutant handler Bryan Singer from a screenplay by Simon Kinberg, adapted from the story by Jane Goldman, Matthew Vaughn, and Kinberg. Spectacular (131 min.). (K.V.)

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FRI-SUN 11:45 2:00 7:15 (2D)
MON-THUR 7:15 (2D)

X-MEN DAYS OF FUTURE PAST (PG13)
FRI-SUN 1:00, 7:00 (3D)
MON-THUR 7:00 (3D)
FRI-THUR 4:15 9:35 (2D)

GODZILLA (PG13)
FRI-SUN 1:30, 7:25 (3D)
TUE-THUR 7:25 (3D)
FRI-THUR 4:30 9:50 (3D)

CHEF (R)
FRI-SUN 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
MON-THUR 5:00 7:30 10:00

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ONE NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, MAY 29

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (165 min., 2014). Presented by National Theatre Live (Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, 7:00)
Sherlock Holmes [illegible] (74 min., 1944) (The Magick Lantern, Point Richmond, 7:30)
Karate Kid (126 min., 1984) (UA Berkeley 7, 8:00)
Labyrinth (101 min., 1986) (Parkway Theater, [illegible])

FRIDAY, MAY 30

[illegible] (77 min., 2013). Followed by Q&A with director [illegible] (Castlemont [illegible] 7:00)
The Immigrant (120 min., 2014) (The Magick Lantern, 8:00)
KLIK Midnight Massacre: Adrenaline Football (90 min.) (Parkway, 10:30)

SATURDAY, MAY 31

The [illegible] (114 min., 1996). Co-presented by The American Institute of Architects, East Bay (Parkway, 3:00)
The Railway Man (116 min., 2014) (The Magick Lantern, 5:30)

MONDAY, JUNE 2

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (165 min., 2014) (Rialto Cinemas Cerrito 7:00)

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

The [illegible] Side of Immigration (95 min., 2009). Associated Students [illegible] Film Series (La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley, 7:30)
[illegible] (95 min., 2013). Co-presented by the Berkeley Film Foundation [illegible] Q&A with director Eugene Corr (Parkway, 7:00)
King Lear (180 min., 2014). Presented by National Theatre Live (Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, 7:00)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

Driving Miss Daisy (140 min., 2014). Presented by Broadway Near You (Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, 7:00)
The Untold History of the United States—Chapter Four: The Cold War: 1945-1950 (57 min., 2012) (Williams Hall, [illegible] 7:30)

Rialto Cinemas
CERRITO
EL CERRITO'S HOMETOWN MOVIE THEATRE
10070 San Pablo Ave. [illegible]
Schedule for Fri May 30 – Thu June 5

X MEN
DAYS OF FUTURE PAST
(3:50) 6:20 9:20 PG-13 No Passes
12pm Show Sat/Sun

MALEFICENT
(4:45) 7:15 9:50 PG
11:50am and 2:15pm Show Sat/Sun

SCENE
[illegible]

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College Ave at Ashby [illegible]
Schedule for Fri May 30 – Thu June 5

"[illegible]" — Los Angeles Times
[illegible] Hall Sam Shepard Don Johnson
COLD IN JULY
(2:20 4:30) 7:15 9:40 R

"Marion Cotillard gives a wide-open and fearless performance that propels the story!" — New York Times
Marion Cotillard Joaquin Phoenix Jeremy Renner
THE IMMIGRANT
(1:45 4:20) 7:00 9:30 R

BLENDED
(1:40 4:10) 7:10 9:45 PG-13

DRIVING MISS DAISY
Broadway Legends Captured On Screen!
[illegible] June 4 [illegible]

National Theatre Live
KING LEAR
[illegible] June 5 7pm
THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME
[illegible] June [illegible] 7pm

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THE JUMP OFF W/ BIG WILLIE 5PM

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MUSIC

GOING THE DISTANCE

The triumphant, uneasy reunion of Floor

By Kathleen Richards

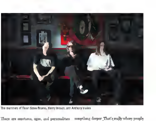
When news first broke that the members of Floor were reuniting (again), putting out a new record, and going on tour there was a collective sense of excitement among heavy music fans. This is a band that had never really gotten its due. Founded in 1992, Floor — singer/guitarist Steve Brooks, guitarist Anthony Vialon, and, more recently, drummer Henry Wilson — play a straightforward style of detuned heaviness, more dynamic than droney, but also singular in its mission to obliterate tall buildings. Yet its career was marked by starts and stops, personnel changes, and a certain lack of focus. As a result, the band never rose above cult status.

But after Floor broke up, things changed, largely due to the success of Brooks' subsequent band, Torche. Torche, which took some of the detuned heaviness of Floor and gave it a healthy shot of adrenaline, helped renew interest in Floor. Then in 2010, with the release of a massive eight-CD boxset, Floor embarked on a reunion tour. The audiences for those shows were bigger than the members of Floor had ever experienced. Whereas they used to play to a room of twenty or thirty, now they were playing to hundreds. It became clear the band still had legs.

But if there's been one consistency in Floor's career, it's that nothing has ever been easy. In interviews, Vialon spoke of the tension that existed after the band's initial breakup due to the fact that he was fired — abruptly so, according to him. In a 2010 interview with the heavy music blog The Obelisk, Vialon likened the band's disintegration to a "horrendous breakup." "I was bitter for a very long time," Vialon said in another interview with the same blog in April.

Floor's excellent new record, *Oblation*, seemed to indicate that the band had put any strife behind it. The record is a cohesive work of drop-tuned guitars, crashing cymbals, soaring vocals, and catchy melodies — a fuzzed-out monstrosity. Reception of the record has been largely positive (I gushed about it in these pages a few weeks ago).

And yet, as a recent interview backstage at San Francisco's Elbo Room indicated, tension within the band hasn't entirely dissipated, and it didn't take long for those feelings to bubble to the surface. The band engaged in some heated discussions about fame, lyrics, and the past, leading to some eye-rolling and even raised voices. Perhaps you could've chalked it up to the fact that the dudes had just been cooped up in a van together for hours.


The members of Floor: Steve Brooks, Henry Wilson, and Anthony Vialon

But also, as Vialon indicated, musical partnerships are very much like romantic ones. There are emotions, egos, and personalities involved, and negotiating those differences can be as fraught as it is in any marriage. There's also the issue of geographical distance to contend with. Both Vialon and Wilson live in Florida, while Brooks now lives in San Francisco, having moved from Atlanta (his Instagram handle is "longdistanceman"). So there's not only figurative distance between them, but physical distance, too.

Not surprisingly then, the decision about whether to make a new record wasn't an easy one. In light of the band's successful 2010 reunion, Wilson decided they shouldn't keep playing old material — they needed to put out something new. Vialon said Brooks was wary at first. "I wanted it to sound as close to the self-titled [album] but moving forward," Brooks explained. "So what I was worried about was not sounding as good as the last record."

Brooks said he didn't want any of Torche's sound to influence the project, so he told Vialon and Wilson to come up with material. Luckily, that wasn't difficult. "I put together roughly twenty songs, or material for about twenty songs — some that were complete, others, when I got together with Henry, [we] torqued them," said Vialon. "I sent those to Steve and he said, 'Oh yeah, we're doing that.'" Brooks ended up contributing his own ideas to the project, including three songs ("Homegoings and Transitions," "The Quill," and "New Man").

While the music seemed to come together fairly easily, lyrics were another matter. Instead of composing separately, as they had for the instrumentals, all three got in a room together to work out the words. Many of *Oblation*'s songs discuss relationships and matters of the heart, as well as spiritual and personal betterment ("oblation" refers to an offering to God). And it's clear the three weren't always in alignment on the subjects.

"For Steve, melodic satisfaction tends to come first," said Wilson. "And he's always writing for it very randomly. We definitely didn't all agree with certain lines that would come up and it'd be like, mm, okay. You definitely have an opportunity. It's not trying to preach to anybody, but if you could write a story, write something that has something to it, some flair, it would be a waste of an opportunity, I think, if it didn't access something deeper. That's really where people tend to connect with people, if you go deep and reveal more."

"Well, Floor prints their lyrics and Torche doesn't," Brooks countered. "I tried making sense out of things and with melodies and everything, for me, not being a storyteller, it sounds stupid to me. And then also, I don't want to have to sing something that is really personal every single night on tour, and I don't want to explain stories to people either. It's good for people who have a vision and don't mind that, but I don't want to keep going back. I want to move forward." (Consider lyrics such as *be the light or nothing/first and last and always/see the light in knowing/by your will I keep going* from "Rocinante" and *all that slows us down/lift your head up/see this day somehow*, from "Find Away.")

When I mention that it seems as if Vialon and Wilson have a moralistic mission for Floor, Vialon responded, "Thematically, if there is something [to the lyrics, it is] spiritual evolution, through relationships with people or the higher power, that's where I'm coming from."

Admittedly, it's an interesting juxtaposition with the music, which is stupidly heavy at times. Vialon and Brooks detune their guitars to a low register, occasionally employing what they call the "bomb string" — a string that's as detuned as possible while still keeping (semi) in tune. "With the bomb string and everything, there's a sense of humor about it," said Vialon.

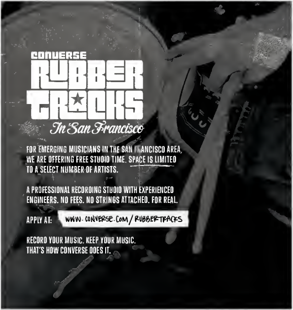
"Oh, it's Butthole Surfers all the way. It's so ridiculous," added Brooks.

Of course, a sense of humor is necessary for any relationship to survive. And now that Brooks lives in San Francisco and there's a new Torche record and tour on the horizon (Brooks also expressed interest in starting a locally based project, and Wilson also has his own band, House of Lightning), it doesn't look as if being in Floor will get easier anytime soon. Nonetheless, Wilson seems hopeful that the reunion this time around will last.

"To have the ability and not actually see that through, that's ridiculous," he said. "People spend their whole lives trying to get where we're at and get a fraction of that. It's a gift."

Brooks' response? "Keep writing, guys." ●

Kathleen.Richards@EastBayExpress.com



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SUSTAINED TONES

KFJC's second annual "24-Hour Drone" will feature more than forty musicians performing in a continuous spectacle

By Zoe Brezsny

Drone music isn't the sound emitted by unmanned aerial vehicles. It's not the buzz of male honeybees as they vie to fertilize the queen bee. As defined by Foothill College radio station KFJC 89.7 FM, it's "any sustained tone that emphasizes timbre and is rhythmically still, or very slow with minimal variation."

Those tones will emanate from KFJC for 26 consecutive hours during its upcoming "24-Hour Drone" extravaganza. It starts at 10 p.m. on Friday, May 30 and goes till midnight the next night. More than forty drone musicians will perform live in the studio, conjuring sound in a continuous spectacle with no breaks in between sets and no use of prerecorded tracks.

Longtime KFJC DJ Nonnie King is co-organizer and host of "24 Hour Drone." His collaborator is The Norman Conquest, a sound manipulator and producer who credits feedback as his biggest source of musical inspiration.

Featured acts include Nux Vomica, Antimatter Wobbly and Amphibious Gestures. Many of the performers live and work in the East Bay, and a number are graduates of the Electronic Music program at Mills College. They are a diverse group. Drone music includes a wide range of sounds. "It can be acoustic, electronic, or a combination of both," King said. "That got me thinking about genres and sub-genres, and how meta it can become so quickly. At face value, it's too easy to see each style as a distinct entity but really they don't exist in isolation. We're very fortunate that here in the Bay Area a lot of musicians move between different scenes with ease."

The members of Amphibious Gestures (2 a.m. May 31) play harsh noise via their "sci-fi sound vessel." Electro-acoustic soloist Thomas Dimuzio (5 p.m. May 31) refers to himself as a sonic alchemist and creates music out of everything from vibrating water pipes to a modified ten speed bicycle.

Event Details

"24-Hour Drone" airs on 89.7 FM beginning on Friday, May 30 at 10 p.m. and ending on Sunday, June 1 at midnight. KFJC.org/drone

Like volatile avant-garde jazz? Tune in at 6 p.m. on May 31 for Oakland musician Phillip Greenlief, a circular-breathing saxophonist who said that while he has deep respect for tonal harmony and its practices, his "work as an improviser seeks to destroy that system."

If you're into minimal ambience, a la seminal electronic outfit Gas, listen in at 11 a.m. on May 31 for Jim Haynes, who uses radio static and field recordings to create alternating lush and crackling sonic textures that demand to be processed with dream logic. Fans of Terry Riley's *Shri Camel* will want to check out Ashley Bellouin (1 p.m., May 31), a Mills graduate who incorporates glass harmonica, pipe organ, and the shruti box (an instrument intrinsic to Indian classical music) into her electro-acoustic compositions.

This will be KFJC's second annual "24 Hour Drone," though the event was first conceived and presented at the Art Institute of Chicago in 2003 by musician Prashish Moments who was then a student there. "That first event was not broadcast anywhere," King said. "Word got out on campus that it was open to anyone to participate, and people just showed up, playing as long as they wanted."

A member of Amphibious Gestures, one of the bands participating in "24-Hour Drone."

"24 Hour Drone" is part of KFJC's annual Month of Mayhem — 31 days of listening that harks back to the golden era of radio, when DJs were the focus. It features shows such as *Dirty Sweets* (a set of dark synth post-rock), *Dub-Wise*, *The Reign of King Tubby* and *Trance States and Reality Breaks: Parallel Worlds and Escaping the Reality Tunnel*. Such programming has cemented the station as a prime source for outsider experimental radio on the West Coast. In 2012 the station was recognized as "The Best Community College Radio Station" in the United States at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Student Radio Awards in New York City.

"24 Hour Drone" will be broadcast live on the radio and online as a video and audio stream. No matter the hour, expect evocative images and bodily sensations not achievable via standard radio. "There was a time when people would tune in to radio to listen to something happening live, in the moment," said King. "There's something very magical about having a shared experience like that."

Drone music can be transcendental or cacophonous, and the act of listening to it can be relaxing or disruptive. In both cases it's an experience that resonates throughout the body, transporting listeners to a world comparable to surrealist William S. Burroughs's Interzone, a place "where three-dimensional fact merges into dream, and dreams erupt into the real world."

For a full list of performers and scheduled times go to KFJC.org/drone. Tune in to KFJC at 89.7 FM in the San Francisco Bay Area and online at KFJC.org/netcast. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

DISCORDANCE AND POP

Soulful drama, misanthropic sludge and divine starkness.

Jolie Holland

Wine Dark Sea

Few singers embody the breadth of American music in the manner of Jolie Holland. Her approach reflects not just the influences of rock, gospel jazz country blues, soul Tin Pan Alley and turn-of-the-20th-century parlor songs, but their very essences. Holland's lithe voice is a remarkable instrument, intoning poignantly like a cross between Maria Muldaur and a young Aretha Franklin, with touches of jazz singer Mildred Bailey and blues goddess Memphis Minnie. She can make with a stray-cat yowl and one like a film noir nightclub thrush, all with feline grace and often within the same song. "Waiting for the Sun" and "The Love You Save" find Holland channeling — not imitating or emulating — mid-Sixties Memphis R&B (think Stax Records' glory years) oozing soulfulness that's in the classic tradition yet totally her own. "Saint Dymphna" is a Cajun-flavored waltz rich with Southern gothic drama and seasoned with electric guitars that clang with Sonic Youth's pre-Geffen-era distortion, and one could easily imagine Louis Armstrong playing and singing the lilting New Orleans strut that is "Route 30." Holland's instrumental palette recalls that of fellow traveler Tom Waits: Guitars shimmer, sigh, and grind with moody restraint; a violin saws a bleak tango; wind instruments wail and bray; and tempos stagger with the morose abandon of lonely guys tumbling out of a tavern at closing time.

In terms of evocations of the American experience, Holland is in the same league as Waits, Rickie Lee Jones, Randy Newman, and Bonnie Prince Billy. (Anti-)

— *Mark Keresman*

Jolie Holland plays The Independent (628 Divisadero St., San Francisco) on Wednesday, June 11. 8 p.m. $20. TheIndependentSF.com

Eyehategod

Eyehategod

Though it's been more than a decade since Eyehategod's most recent release, it seems like a misnomer to call its newest album a "comeback." To fans of the New Orleans band, its singular strain of hardcore-infused sludge has never lost its relevance. That is partially due to the band's spiritual conviction, a communion of misanthropy pulled off with a sickened wink and a smile. Guitarists Jimmy Bower and Brian Patton's riffing juxtaposes bending, discordant notes with crushing low-end chords that feel like a brick to the head. Meanwhile, vocalist Mike IX Williams alternates between sounding jaded and feral.

It doesn't hurt that Eyehategod hails from New Orleans, itself a troubled locus of American history rife with equal parts cultural pride and political neglect. Eyehategod's music, more than anything else, makes me want to take a trip down to the Big Easy — to catch a whiff of whatever is in the air that makes its music simultaneously repulsive and inviting. *Eyehategod*, the band's first release for Phil Anselmo's Housecore label, opens with the hardcore number "Agitation! Propaganda!" before dropping into the pocket for the muddy groove of "Trying to Crack the Hard Dollar." Meanwhile, "Framed to the Wall" swings like a bag of hammers, and "Robitussin and Rejection" is an absolute crusher, apt for creating a frothing, sweaty circle pit. Throughout the proceedings, Williams provides a blend of drug sickness and paranoid-revolutionary social commentary, like the whiskey-soaked, crust-punk bastard son of Hunter S. Thompson.

Eyehategod preaches the end-time message one song at a time. (Housecore Records)

— *Henry York*

Aurelio Valle

Acme Power Transmission

While it's more recently known for its reactionary politicians, Texas has a prosperous cultural history — after all, it spawned The Thirteenth Floor Elevators, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and Butthole Surfers. Members of the band Calla came from there, but they moved to Brooklyn in 1997. While Calla is on hiatus, frontman Aurelio Valle released his first solo outing, combining the oddly slowed, creative indie rock of Calla with a slightly more direct and melodious approach.

The pulsing electro-beat of "Deadbeat" is a descendant of the early Eighties synth pop of Gary Numan and Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark, but Valle's take on it is rawer and slightly more menacing, the lo-fi electronic sounds pulsing like distressed machinery. Except for Valle's whispering, slightly seductive vocals, "Cowboy" resembles early Cocteau Twins with its dense, billowing textures, and Joy Division circa "Atmosphere" with its hints of divine starkness. The restless-yet-sleek "Electraglide" features guest vocals from The Cardigans' Nina Persson, whose ice-princess-like cooing evokes Siouxsie and The Banshees plus a hint of noir-laden guitar twang. "Superhawk" is the most ambitious track — it's got an undulating beat as steady as a subway train, a spooky chorus, and a strutting horn section blasting merrily with ska overtones.

While *Acme* won't win any awards for originality, the manner in which Valle slyly combines discordance and noise with pop sensibilities is alluring and stimulating. (Nuevo Leon)

— *Mark Keresman*

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DOWNSTAIRS: "LA [illegible] DISCO XO" (FREE)
FRI, MAY 30 9PM $7
UPSTAIRS: ELECTRIC STRAWBERRY, GOLDYWEST, TROUBADOUR & MOUNT SAINT ELIAS
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CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 29

EAST BAY

All Ages

Kelli [illegible] the pianist and vocalist collaborates with local, national, and international guest [illegible] for an evening of music from various genres, [illegible], 8 p.m., $10

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Caffe Trieste, 7 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ The [illegible] & Jeff [illegible], Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 8 p.m., $22-$24

Experimental & Avant-Garde

The [illegible] Duende, 9 p.m., $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], 10 p.m., $10

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Cafe, 7 p.m., free
Happy Hour [illegible], line-up of artists, The Marsh and [illegible], 7 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible] jazz with [illegible] singers, The Alley, 9 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

The Golden Path w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Stork Club, 9 p.m., $5
[illegible] [illegible], 9 p.m., free
The [illegible] w/ [illegible] American Dream, [illegible] and [illegible] Club 88's Mile High Club, 7 p.m., $10
The Lost [illegible] Starry Plough, 9:30 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Berkeley Funk Night live funk, soul, hip-hop, jazz and latin music, Starry Plough, 9 p.m., free
Jel w/ Formless Heights and [illegible], The Legionnaire Saloon, 9 p.m., $7
[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $34
[illegible] free local hip-hop artists including but not limited to rappers, musicians, and poets, [illegible], 9 p.m., free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and the [illegible] Band, Ashkenaz, 9:30 p.m., $15-$20
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], DJ [illegible], and the [illegible], The [illegible], 9 p.m., $15, $20

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Weekend, [illegible], [illegible] and the [illegible] String Band, The Chapel, 9 p.m., $12-$15
[illegible] Plough and Stars, 9 p.m., free
John [illegible] Biscuits & Blues, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $18
[illegible] w/ Marty O'Reilly and the Old Soul Orchestra, and [illegible], Hotel Utah, 9 p.m., $10

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony performs Poulenc's Litanies for the Black Virgin, Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms, and Faure's Requiem, w/ [illegible] conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $15-$152

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] [illegible], 7 p.m., $8

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] accompanies Charlie Chaplin's The Kid, SFJAZZ Center, 7:30 p.m., $15-$40
Michael [illegible] and [illegible] Hotel Biron, 9 p.m., free
Stompy Jones Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m., $10

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ J [illegible], The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $25-$35
[illegible] Madrone Art Bar, 9 p.m., free
The [illegible] w/ Laughters and [illegible], 50 Mason Social House, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and Midnight [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $8, $10
[illegible] Fighters w/ [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m., sold out
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and The [illegible], Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m., $13, $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $35, $47
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Party and [illegible], Public Works, 9 p.m., $17
[illegible] w/ The Fire Department and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $10, $12
[illegible] and the [illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Amnesia, 9 p.m., $7-$10

Once and Future Band plays the Night Light on 5/31

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] Cafe du Nord, 7 p.m., $7
The [illegible] w/ [illegible] and The [illegible], [illegible] Theater, 8:30 p.m., $9

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] San Francisco, 8 & 10 p.m., $30-$40
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Slim's, 8 p.m., $20
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 10 p.m., $16, $20
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Boom Boom Room, 9:30 p.m., $12

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 9:30 p.m., $8 before 10:30pm, $8 after

FRIDAY 30

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Starry Plough, 9 p.m., $6, $8-$12
[illegible] and [illegible] Subterranean Arthouse, 8 p.m., $10-$20
[illegible] Zydeco [illegible] Hall, 9 p.m., $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and the [illegible], [illegible] Cafe, 8 p.m., $7

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m., $32-$36
[illegible] [illegible] First [illegible] Methodist Church, 7:30 p.m., $15, $20
[illegible] dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free
[illegible] Duende, 9:30 p.m., $10
[illegible] and the [illegible] [illegible] California Conservatory, 8 p.m., $11, $12 seniors and students

Rock & Pop

[illegible] High Street Station Stop, 7 p.m., $10
[illegible] w/ The Last [illegible], and The [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible], and [illegible], The Night Light, 9 p.m., $7
[illegible] Cafe [illegible], 8 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and the [illegible], and The [illegible], 8 p.m., $5-$10
[illegible] and [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], [illegible] 9 p.m., $12
[illegible] [illegible] 9 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], The Uptown, 9 p.m., $10

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

The Curtis Mayfield Superfly Tribute [illegible] hosted by [illegible], w/ [illegible], [illegible] and James [illegible], The New Parish, 9 p.m., $15, $20
Dynamic w/ 8th Grader and DJ Lady Ryan, The Legionnaire Saloon, 9 p.m., $7
[illegible] [illegible], 9 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible] concert [illegible] and the [illegible], "[illegible]", [illegible], 7 p.m., $5-$10 suggested donation

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Ashkenaz, 9 p.m., $15-$20

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $7
[illegible] and [illegible], Plough and Stars, 9 p.m., cover charge
[illegible] Biscuits & Blues, 7:30 & 10

UPCOMING SHOWS

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[illegible]
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SAT 6/07
GLITTER WIZARD
WILD EYES, MIRTHQUAKE

SAT 6/14
SHAO
FRAK, GAMERA

SAT 6/21
[illegible]
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PICKS

Never Young

Curtis Mayfield Superfly Birthday Tribute

After writing some of the most popular songs of the 1960s and 1970s, Curtis Mayfield continues to influence musicians. Jimi Hendrix and Bob Marley are among those who have imitated the legendary soul, funk, and R&B artist's breezy guitar style and distinctive tenor voice. In 2012, members of TV on the Radio and Sinead O'Connor performed at a concert celebrating what would have been his 70th birthday. Mayfield was a master at melding socially conscious lyrics and messages of love with catchy songwriting. On Friday at The New Parish (579 18th St., Oakland), local musicians who have been profoundly influenced by his work — including percussionist Rene Escovedo, vocalist Cadany Holiday, and producer James Earley's Superfly Band — will perform songs from the hit soundtrack Mayfield created for the 1972 film *Superfly* as well as other classics. *—Madeleine Key*

Friday, May 30, 9 p.m., $15, $20. TheNewParish.com

Godaey Holiday

Never Young

If you like your pop dissonant, careening, and bathed in distortion, with choruses shouted and grittiness to fill blood, you'll want to check out Never Young. The Oakland band's recently released album, *Master Copy*, is eighteen minutes of short, punchy punkish anthems, brimming with youthful exuberance, catchy melodies, and a healthy admiration for the 1990s. Released on the San Francisco record label Father/Daughter Records, which bills itself as "a safe haven for misfit pop bands," the cassette-only release also comes in an expanded edition with a "handmade, limited edition 'zine." Pick one up at the band's next show which happens on Thursday at SUB-Mission (2183 Mission St., San Francisco). *—Kathleen Richards*

Thursday, May 29, 7 p.m., $7. SF-Submission.com

C&C

p.m., $32
Jayne Good Zeged Birdwood, 5 p.m.-midnight. Jazz
The Shapes w/ [illegible], and The Thicket Jupiter, Milk Bar, 8:30 p.m., $6
Willie Watson Bluegrass Stage, 8 p.m., $12-$15

Classical & Opera

and Francisco Symphony performs Poulenc's Gloria for the [illegible] Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms, and Fauré's Requiem, w/ Charles Dutoit, conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $15-$157

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Marc Ribot's Ceramic Dog [illegible], 7:30 p.m., $20-$40
Michael Pisaro Quiet [illegible] Wolf Fine Arts, 8 p.m., $10
Reading from Outside w/ Bob Ostertag & David Coss, Center Cafe, 7 p.m. Jazz

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Black Stone Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark, 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m., $10
Hardly Strictly Jazz Atlas Cafe, 7:30 p.m. Jazz
Michael Feinstein and Paula Poundstone Hotel Nikko, 8 p.m., sold out.

Rock & Pop

The Rattlesnake Orchestra w/ Tartuf and Vanessa, The Chapel, 8 p.m., $15
Strandzzees Tupelo, 9 p.m., $5
De Lahoodie solo [illegible] Madrone Art Bar, 6:30 p.m., and
The Freedom Free w/ [illegible] and Anna Hillburg, Oakland, 8 p.m., $30
Goldmouth w/ [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m., sold out.
Greater Stones w/ [illegible], Madame Social House, 8 p.m., free
Polly Shelf w/ The Gift Queens, Slim's, 8 p.m., $15, $18
Silver Wattson w/ Raquel Rodriguez, Bob

& Mortar Music Hall, 10:30 p.m., $10, $12
Tyler Good Folk & Mortar Book Hall, 7:30 p.m., $15, $20
Virgil Good and **Killer Views** w/ [illegible] Cowboys, Mile-Out Roosh 7:30 p.m., $8
Wu Ayo and [illegible] Lodge, Unstrung, and [illegible], SPA Lounge, 8:30 p.m., $6, $17
Whitehorse w/ Stephen Lynne, and Dawn [illegible], Thee Oakland, 8:30 p.m., $8

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Gift Davis Madrona w/ Candidate [illegible] State Room, 8 p.m., $15
Gangsta [illegible] San Francisco, 8 & 10 p.m., $30-$45
The Greenroom Stellar AM and Pioneers w/ El Radio Fantastique and [illegible] and the [illegible] of the Hill, 9:30 p.m., $10
UKLT w/ [illegible] Like Us, and [illegible] de la Vega, Mezzanine, 8 p.m., $25, $30
Dirtie Crossing w/ [illegible] and DPat, The Boom, 9 p.m., $10

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Achilles Stewart w/ Lauren Murphy Hotel Utah, 9 p.m., $10

SATURDAY 31

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Greg Davis [illegible] 8 p.m., free
Jason Murdoch and Ouroni Albany Tap Room 7 p.m., and
Lacey Bown, and [illegible] Ashkenaz, 9:35 p.m., $15
The Eversoul [illegible] w/ [illegible] and Rhoda Pottrell, The Uptown, 8 p.m., $20, $25
SuperModal w/ The Vibrants and The [illegible] Plough, 9 p.m., $6, $8-$10
Toby Keith w/ Colt Ford and Krystal Keith, Shoreline Amphitheatre, 7 p.m., $24.25-$68.50

Classical & Opera

Bach Be Piano Trinity [illegible] 8 p.m., $35

Experimental & Avant-Garde

All Tomorrows After Parties Festival feat. Ze Bib, Emily Hay and Stellar and [illegible], Tom B Ryan and Carbon Junction, [illegible] Shepherd, [illegible] Village of Cows, [illegible] Tent Show, The Illuminations, Zac Carey, [illegible] and Ambient/[illegible], 2424 University Ave., noon, $12
Art Valid [illegible] Boom and the [illegible] and Boom Band, [illegible] and 3 Lords, [illegible] visual [illegible] by [illegible] and a light show by Kelly Porter, The Night Light, 8 p.m., $30

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Stellar and [illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $12-$30
Carol Sloane 57th Street Gallery, 8:30 p.m., $15
Guy Khanesah 57th Street Room, 7:30 p.m., $15-$20
All w/ William O'Daly, California Jazz Conservatory, 8 p.m., $15, $12 seniors and students
Roots Goldwich Group Jupiter, 8 p.m., Jazz
Michael Coleman, Todd Sickafoose, and Stellar Shine [illegible], 9:30 p.m., $10
Nature Groove Trio Longbranch 9:30 p.m., Jazz
Susanna Smith: Peggy Lee Project The Sound Room, 8 p.m., $20, $25
Bob Roach and Da Stones [illegible] Grand, 10 p.m., $18
Nad Dibble dinner jam with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., and

Kids

Pablito Doom Le Petit [illegible], 10:30 a.m., $5 kids, $8 parents.

Rock & Pop

Rusty Gibbs w/ Jamil and the Hill, Concord Pavilion, 7:30 p.m., $38.50-$154
Michael & Peter Monaghan on the Hill, 7 p.m., free
Dirty w/ Stay Sound and Birdwood, 1-2-3-4 Go! Records, 7 p.m.

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MAY 29

TECH N9NE'S INDEPENDENT GRIND TOUR 2014
TECH N9NE
FREDDIE GIBBS
KRIZZ KALIKO
JARREN BENTON
JUNE 2

Black Label Society
Butcher Babies
JUNE 6

MESHUGGAH
25 YEARS OF MUSICAL DEVIANCE
BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME
JUNE 7

GUIDED BY VOICES
BOOTY BASS, JR.
JUNE 11

WHO'S BAD: THE WORLD'S #1 MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE BAND
JUNE 27

THE NUTWIST
JUNE 14

TAMAR BRAXTON
JUNE 12

FUTURE
JUNE 30

CULTURA PROFÉTICA
JUNE 25

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Bombay Bicycle Club
OCTOBER 5

RODRIGUEZ
MAY 28

LISA CAMPANELLI
THE LEAN ON ME TOUR
JUNE 7

NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS
JULY 7 & 8

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[illegible]

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Gamelan Sekar Jaya
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Lavay Smith
& her Red Hot Skillet Lickers
$15
Swing

[illegible]

Tue 6/3
8:30 pm
Zydeco
Tri Tip Trio

Thu [illegible]
8:30 pm
Balkan
Édessa with special guest
Ivan Milev

6/4,13,18,25 [illegible] – 6/6 [illegible]
6/7 Chinyakare Ensemble – 6/13 [illegible]

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PAZ: Fandango Urbano – BEGINNER WORKSHOP
for more workshop dates: www.lapena.org/events

Fri May 30 9pm, $5 entrance
Me Sabe a Perú (In the Lounge)
Menu prices vary

Sat May 31 10:30am, $5 kids, $6 adults
Amiguitos de La Peña presents:
Patricia Bulitt

Sun June 1 4pm, Free
Exhibit Reception: Traveling Stitches – Quilts Made at the Bay Worker Center of Mountain View

World Devotional Music with Fanna Fi Allah & BOLO
Sun June 1 @ 6 pm, $20 adv $25 door

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Sat, June 7 @ 8 pm FREE

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C&C

He Who [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] High Club, 7 p.m., $6-$10
Moonlight [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Stork Club, 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] Oakland [illegible], Metro Operahouse, 7 p.m., $20
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Double [illegible], and Roadside Fab, 924 Gilman, 8 p.m., $12
[illegible] w/ Roadside [illegible], Bobby Hollywood and The [illegible], and [illegible], Stork Club, 8 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible], 7 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ Bobby [illegible] and James the [illegible], Awaken Cafe, 8 p.m., $7
Soulful Saturdays [illegible] by Lil Mousse, MLK Cafe, 9 p.m., $10

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible], Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $23, $25

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Mill Bar, 10:30 p.m., $8, $10
Craig Ventresco and Meredith [illegible], Atlas Cafe, 4 p.m., free
The Lady [illegible], [illegible] and Stars, 8 p.m., no cover charge
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Caffe Trieste, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Johnny [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], [illegible]

7 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible] & Forms, 7:30 & 10 p.m., $34

Classical & Opera

MUSA [illegible] presents [illegible], Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8 p.m., $20
San Francisco Symphony presents: Disney's Fantasia [illegible] in concert, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $35-$144

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Michael [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 7 p.m., sold out
[illegible] w/ [illegible], The [illegible], and [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $12

Rock & Pop

The Geek of the Day a [illegible] rotation of the Bay Area's [illegible] and bands, Top of the Mark, 9-11:30 p.m., $10
[illegible] and the Good Times w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $7-$10
The [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $12
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and The [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $18, $20
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and The [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9:30 p.m., $12
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] Lounge, 3 p.m., and
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], the Hill, 1:45 p.m., $10
John [illegible] Acoustic Music, 3 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible], 9 p.m., $12
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] Young, The Independent, 8 p.m., $30
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], The Chapel, 9 p.m., $15, $17

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The Phenomenauts w/ [illegible], [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], [illegible] p.m., $6
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] Social House, 10 p.m., $7
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] in Houses, and [illegible], Oakland Eatery, 7 p.m., $8

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] of the Woods, 9:30 p.m., $10
[illegible] [illegible], 8 & 11 p.m., $30-$40
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Washington and the [illegible] Room, 7:30 p.m., $8
[illegible] and the [illegible] w/ The [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] Hall, 9 p.m., $10
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $10 after 10pm
[illegible] feat. [illegible] and the [illegible] Funk [illegible], free, 10 p.m.
[illegible] $15

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Los [illegible] [illegible] Grand, 7:30 p.m., $28-$41

SUNDAY 1

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Stork Club, 1 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible] feat. [illegible],

VENUE DIRECTORY

EAST BAY

1-2-3-4 Go! Records [illegible] 40th St., [illegible]
25th Street Collective [illegible] 25th St., Oakland, [illegible]
57th Street Art Gallery [illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] 924 Gilman St., Berkeley, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
Air Bar & Lounge [illegible] 9th St., [illegible], [illegible]
Albatross Pub 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-2473
The Alley 3325 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8505
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
Art House Gallery & Cultural Center 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, 510-525-5054
Awaken Cafe [illegible] Broadway, Oakland, [illegible]
The Baltic 135 Park Pl., Point Richmond, [illegible]
Bench and Bar 510 17th St., Oakland, [illegible]
Frank Bette Center for the Arts [illegible] Lincoln St., Alameda, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave., [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
Club 21 2111 Franklin St., Oakland, [illegible]
Coffee Mill 3363 Grand Ave., [illegible]
Conga Lounge 5422 College Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
The Continental Club 1658 12th St., Oakland, [illegible]
Craneway Pavilion 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] 19th St., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] Hall [illegible] Alameda Ave., Alameda, [illegible]

[illegible] High Club [illegible] Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] Art Bar and Lounge [illegible] Grand Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
First Congregational Church [illegible] Channing Way, Berkeley, [illegible]
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge [illegible] Lincoln Ave., Alameda, [illegible]
Fox Theater [illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
Freight & Salvage 2020 Addison St., Berkeley, [illegible]
The Greek Theatre [illegible] Gayley Rd., Berkeley, [illegible]
Hertz Hall UC Berkeley ([illegible] Way at College Ave.) Berkeley, [illegible]
High Street Station 1303 High St., Alameda, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St., Alameda, [illegible]
Ivy Room 860 San Pablo Ave., Albany, [illegible]
Jazzschool 2087 Addison St., Berkeley, [illegible]
Jewish Community Center of the East Bay 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, [illegible]
John Patrick's [illegible] Park St., Alameda, [illegible]
Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
Kingman's Lucky Lounge [illegible] Grand Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Durant Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
Laney College Theatre 900 Fallon St., Oakland, [illegible]
The Layover 1517 Franklin St., Oakland, [illegible]
The Legionnaire Saloon 2272 Telegraph Ave., Oakland
Lounge 3411 3411 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, [illegible]
Luka's Taproom & Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4677
[illegible] 401 2nd St, Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] Lounge [illegible] MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
[illegible] 1406 Webster St.

Oakland, [illegible]
The New Parish 579 18th St., Oakland, [illegible]
The Night Light [illegible] Broadway, [illegible]
Oakland Metro Operahouse [illegible] 3rd St., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Coliseum Way, Oakland, [illegible]
Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Washington St., Oakland, [illegible]
Piedmont Piano Company 1728 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
Quinn's Lighthouse 1951 Embarcadero Cove, Oakland, [illegible]
Radio 435 13th St., Oakland, [illegible]
Red Room 1544 Broadway, Oakland, [illegible]
Rhythmix Cultural Works 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda, [illegible]
The Rock Steady [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Oakland
[illegible] [illegible] Ave., Alameda, [illegible]
Ruby Room 132 14th St., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] Lounge [illegible] 13th St., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], Oakland, [illegible]
The [illegible] [illegible] Broadway, Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Ave., Alameda, [illegible]
Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
Studio Grand 3234 Grand Ave., Oakland
Subterranean Art House 2179 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, [illegible]
Uptown 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
[illegible] 420 14th St., Oakland, [illegible]
White Horse Bar 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]
Yoshi's 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland, [illegible]
Zellerbach Hall UC Berkeley, Berkeley, [illegible]

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[illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $25, $27

[illegible] Strange Salvage, 1 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Phillips [illegible] 4 p.m., free

Sunday [illegible] Caffe Mediterraneum, 10 a.m., free

Classical & Opera

[illegible] St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 4 p.m., $20

Young Peoples Symphony Orchestra [illegible] Company, 4 p.m., $20

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible] Vocal Ensemble Piedmont Center for the Arts, 4 p.m., $20, $25

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Albany High School Jazz Band w/ [illegible] [illegible], 7 p.m., $15

[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 6 & 8 p.m., $32-$36

[illegible] 5 p.m., $10

Berkeley High Jazz [illegible] [illegible] 2 p.m., $20

Jazz and R&B Night Jersey's Locker, 6-10 p.m., free

[illegible] Cafe, 5 p.m., free

[illegible] Memorial High [illegible] Cafe, 2-6 p.m., free

[illegible] Jazz Conservatory, 4:30 p.m., $15, $12 seniors, free students

[illegible] Taylor's Sunday Jazz [illegible] [illegible], 4 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 1-2-3-4 Go! Records, 7 p.m., $TBA

[illegible] [illegible] Pavilion, 2:30 p.m., $38-$158

Live 105 BFD w/ Foster the People, M.I.A., Fitz and the Tantrums, Phantogram, New Politics, Walk the Moon, MS MR, [illegible], [illegible], The Kooks, [illegible], Wavves, The [illegible] Boys, [illegible], and more, Shoreline Amphitheatre, 11 a.m., $35-$89.50

Rock N' Roll [illegible] [illegible] each week, The [illegible] Lounge, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible], 6 p.m., $5

[illegible] [illegible] by Stephen [illegible], High Street [illegible] Cafe, 5 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

The [illegible] w/ [illegible], The [illegible] Lounge, 7 p.m., free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] with local [illegible] Subterranean Arthouse, 7 p.m., $10-$20

World [illegible] [illegible] w/ [illegible], La Peña Cultural Center, 7:30 p.m., $20, $25

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ The Wind and the Wave and [illegible], Great American Music Hall, 7:30 p.m., $13, $15

The [illegible] and [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $7-$10

[illegible] Trio feat. [illegible] and [illegible], Yoshi's San Francisco, 7 & 9 p.m., $27, $16

[illegible] [illegible], 4 p.m., free

[illegible] [illegible] House, 5 p.m., free

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera presents: [illegible] w/ [illegible] conducting, War Memorial Opera House, 2 p.m., $23-$357

San Francisco Symphony presents: [illegible] film accompanied live in [illegible] Symphony Hall, 4 p.m., $31-$346

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Musicians Union Hall, 7:30 p.m., $10

Peter [illegible] w/ [illegible], Hotel Utah, 6 p.m., $10

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Brunch with Future Perfect & [illegible] guests, 10:00 a.m. [illegible] 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., $30, [illegible]

[illegible] presents [illegible], The Rhythm of the Land, St. [illegible] Lutheran Church, 3 p.m., $15, $20

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible], 6 p.m., $5

Karl [illegible] Trio [illegible], 6-9 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible], SFJAZZ Center, 7 p.m., $25-$44

[illegible] Top of the Mark, 10 a.m., [illegible] $70 per [illegible]

plus tax and [illegible]

Michael [illegible] [illegible], 7 p.m., sold out

Sunday Sessions [illegible] w/ [illegible] and weekly guests, [illegible], 9:30 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Alt [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], 7 p.m., $35-$45

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], DNA Lounge, 7 p.m., $8, $10

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $25, $35

[illegible] w/ [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m., sold out

[illegible] and the [illegible], 7 & 9 p.m., $25

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] and the Legendary, The Parkside, 4 p.m., $8

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] and the Little Picture, [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, [illegible], 8:15 p.m., $10, $12

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] feat. local [illegible] [illegible], Elbo Room, 4 p.m., free

[illegible] [illegible] performance and [illegible], [illegible], 3 p.m., free

MONDAY 2

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible], The Night Light, 9 p.m., $5

Classical & Opera

[illegible] St. [illegible] Episcopal Church, 8 p.m., $20

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible] Lounge, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] and the [illegible] Garden [illegible], Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $10

The [illegible] [illegible], 8 p.m., $10

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[illegible] 853 [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

Amnesia [illegible] [illegible] Haight St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] Cafe 3080 20th St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] California St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] Chalet [illegible] Great Highway, 415-386-8439

[illegible] 2295 Mission St., 415-[illegible]

Bill Graham Civic Auditorium 99 Grove St., 415-[illegible]

Bimbo's 365 Club 1025 Columbus Ave., 415-474-0365

Bottom of the Hill 1233 17th St., 415-626-4455

[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-673-8000

[illegible] 1233 17th St., 415-621-4455

Brick & Mortar Music Hall 1710 Mission St., 415-800-8782

[illegible] 2389 Mission St., 415-[illegible]

Cafe du Nord 2170 Market St., 415-861-5016

Caffe Trieste 609 Vallejo St., 415-392-6739

[illegible] 1546 Folsom St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] Sutter St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] 777 Valencia St., 415-[illegible]

Davies Symphony Hall 201 Van Ness Ave., 415-864-6000

[illegible] Lounge 375 11th St., 415-[illegible]

Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary St., 415-885-4074

El Rio 3158 Mission St., 415-282-3325

Elbo Room 647 Valencia St., 415-552-7788

The [illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] St., 888-[illegible]

The Fillmore 1805 Geary Blvd., 415-346-6000

Great American Music Hall 859 O'Farrell St., 415-885-0750

[illegible] 1[illegible] Polk St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Van Ness Ave., 415-392-4400

[illegible] [illegible] 4th St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] St., 415-771-[illegible]

[illegible] 2[illegible] O'Farrell St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] 3223 Mission St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] Lounge [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] 2[illegible] St., 415-647-2888

[illegible] 444 Jessie St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 119 Utah St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 1840 Haight St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] 6th St., 415-[illegible]

Neck of the Woods 406 Clement St., 415-387-6343

Old [illegible] Masonic Center 1111 California St., 415-776-7457

Park Chalet Brewery 1000 Great Highway, 415-386-8439

[illegible] [illegible] Powell St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] Clement St., 415-[illegible]

Public Works 161 Erie St., 415-932-0955

The Regency Ballroom 1300 Van Ness Ave., 888-929-7849

[illegible] 155 Fell St., 415-[illegible]

The Rickshaw Stop 155 Fell St., 415-[illegible]

The [illegible] 3[illegible] Mission St., 415-[illegible]

Ruby Skye 420 Mason St., 415-693-0777

San Francisco Conservatory of Music 50 Oak St., 415-[illegible]

SFJAZZ Center 201 Franklin St., 866-920-5299

[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 333 11th St., 415-[illegible]

St. [illegible] Episcopal Church [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] Gallery 2[illegible] Mission St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Mission St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Mission St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] 17th St., 415-[illegible]

Top of the Mark 999 California St., 415-616-6916

The [illegible] [illegible] St., 415-771-7722

[illegible] [illegible] Fillmore St., 415-[illegible]

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C&C

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Bluegrass Mondays feat. featured guests, Amnesia, 9 p.m., free
Fried Glasses and **Bloom Doo** Cafe, 8 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

The Gerald Beckett Quintet Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $10-$18
La Doo Hot Le Colonial, 7 p.m., free
RRRL Bonnar The Session Mauritz & Brew, 7:30 p.m., $12
Make-Out First Mondays monthly evening jazz series MakeOut Room, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Radiohead Tiger w/ **The Night Falls**, The Improvisations, **Air Badgers** and Mock Church, DNA Lounge, 8 p.m., $7-$20
The Faint w/ **Reptar** and **Male Gaze**, The Independent, 8 p.m., sold out
SKRAw/ Wild Cart and **Guitar Album**, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $10, $13

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Doc Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $12-$15
Kellow w/ **Sam Little**, The Fillmore, 8 p.m., $32.50
Tech N9ne w/ **Prozak**, **Mac Kuties**, **Jarren Benton**, **Psych Ward Druggies**, and **Mondo**, The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $30-$32

TUESDAY 3

EAST BAY

All Ages

Kaila Zapada the pianist and cellist collaboration with Brazil ... and International guest ... for an evening of music from various genres, South Sanctuary and Delicatessen, 6-8 p.m., free

Blues, Folk, & Country

Cd Hip Trio Ashkenaz, 8:30 p.m., $10

Classical & Opera

Ars Lyrica Houston First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 8 p.m., $26-$45
Seattle Handel at **Villa** w/ Johanna Baird, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 8 p.m., $30
Women's Antique Vocal Ensemble presents **Studio Vero the Venetian** Ospedali Berkeley City Club, 8 p.m., $20, $15 seniors and students

Experimental & Avant-Jazz

Wolfstainmen w/ Captain Scrabble and 3D ... and His Sacred Technology, 1-2-3-4 Go! Records, 7 p.m., $8

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Doc Stable dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 9 p.m., free
Stephen Gubbard Jr. Chapel, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

The Dream Landings Down Club, 9 p.m., free
Alan in **cabaret** w/ **Chapel**, Endless Dance Cutting, and Kountry Punk, Oakland Music Openhouse, 7:30 p.m., $10
Star Collins Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $13

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Chyl the Prince w/ Syntax Hussain Meyer, Young Mo, Buggy and Dealey Sean G, The New Parish, 9 p.m., $17-$20
Jessie Ware and **the All-Star Gone** Concord Pavilion, 7 p.m., $30.50-$140.50

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Dream Magic Modern Art Bar, 10 & 11:30 p.m., free
The Brew Bonnar students Art Bar, 7 p.m., free
Ms the Tiger Amnesia, 6:30 p.m., $5
Tommy P. Hemlock Cafe, 7 p.m., free
Two Tone Swing Mauritz & Blues, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $10

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera presents: Show Boat w/ John DeMain conducting, War Memorial Opera House, 8 p.m., $23-$387

Experimental & Avant-Jazz

DJ Wallace Revolution Cafe, 8:30 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

The Tommy Igoe Big Band Nob's Hill Francisco, 8 p.m., $12

Rock & Pop

Quasi, **Albatross** w/ **Lochness Hamdale Powerhead**, and **Hazards** Great Hike Room, 9 p.m., $10, $12
Beverly w/ **Witch-Hazel Parade** and **Snow Angel**, Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $8
The Faint w/ **Reptar** and **Shadow Horn**, The Independent, 8 p.m., sold out
Generation Kill w/ **Mona**, **Fish Smells**, **Jealousy** and DJ Alex, The Balboa at, 8:30 p.m., $8
Sexbox Youth w/ **Northwood Kids**, Coop, and **Brothel Lounge**, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $10
Off w/ EricPeroes and DJ **Aaron Axelsen**, Hemlock Stag, 8 p.m., sold out
Wrecks w/ **Jeiko**, **Mivel**, and **Red Breath** Hemlock Tavern, 8:30 p.m., $6
WSM Opens w/ Marian Hill, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Greenline w/ Bonobo, The Chapel, 9 p.m., free

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WEDNESDAY 4

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Livingston Taylor Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $20, $28
Live Traditional Irish Music for whistle flute, concertina, uilleann pipes, words, and students w/ Crossroades/ Nick Edwards, The Lighthouse Saloon, 6:30 p.m., free
Whiskey Brothers Albatross Pub, 8 p.m., free

Classical & Opera

Dean Sentor High Bottom Baroque Ensemble performs Bach, Corelli, and Vivaldi, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 8 p.m., $17, $25
Early Music America's Young Performers Festival w/ performances by students and ensembles from colleges, universities, and conservatories throughout North America, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 11 a.m. & 2:30 p.m., $10 suggested donation
Voz Lamento First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 8 p.m., $32-$48

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Amendola vs Blades Duende, 9 p.m., $10
Anti Stax and the Sound Stew Sweet Bandit's Roadhouse, 8:30 p.m., free
Randy Craig and **Eduardo** The Marsh Arts Center, 7 p.m., free
Anti Childs dinner jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Bonnie, **Strawberry** w/ special guests, The Uptown, 9 p.m., free
The Soft White Sixties w/ Major Powers and the Lo-Fi Symphony and Girl & Gold, The New Parish, 8 p.m., free
Six Gods and **Grass Grass** Ashkenaz, 8 p.m., $12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Sekanish's free improv jam, The Layover, 10 p.m., free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Caribbean Night w/ Reggae Flash and DJ Mandrik, Shotsy's Lodge, 7-11 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Our Bohemian w/ **Lucy Wainwright Roche**, Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m., $25
Jehnny Beth The Chapel, 8 p.m., $20, $22
The Misfits w/ Doors Mohawkers free Nova Noir Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $8
Terry Saxophone Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m., free
The Carroll Bottom of the Hill, 7:30 & 8:30 p.m., $15

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony performs Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10, w/ Charles Dutoit conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $35-$152

Experimental & Avant-Garde

The Laminals free Bonnar Loft and guests, **Bantix** Boom Boom Room, 9:30 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Amie in Amnesia, 8 p.m., free
Eric Garland's Jazz Session Amnesia, 10 p.m., free
Ronnie Scales plays smooth jazz piano, Top of the Mark, 6:30 & 11:30 p.m., $8
The Amnesiacs Amnesia, 6 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Gems w/ **Terrible Tyler**, **O'Hanna**, and Lot 6, Bum, Thee Parkside, 8 p.m., $10
Nocturnal Harmony w/ **Jet Omni** and **The Laughs**, Hemlock Tavern, 8:30 p.m., $6
Atti Floyd The Warfield, 8 p.m., $38.50-$42
The Doormat w/ **Kellin Nale** and **Stellar Quartet**, Slim's, 8 p.m., $20
Shadowbreeze w/ **Life Poise** and **Shadow** DNA Lounge, 8 p.m., $15-$20
Shane Dempsey and **the Hooligans** DD Mason Social House, 7 p.m., free
KSAN Sun 35 & Benefit for the 66 Valentine Radio Society & Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame feat. Big Brother and The Holding Company, Country Joe McDonald, Cold Blood w/ Lydia Pense and Rick Stevens, The Stepwells, Vintage Service, Sal Valentino, and more, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $40
Little Hurricane w/ **Lincoln Durham** and **Fritz Montana**, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $12
Dave in Knights Rickshaw Stop, 8 p.m., $12
Marble Mouth w/ **GrouMatic**, **Josh Clark**, **Sean Leahy**, **Fred Trujillo** and more, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $8
Sweet Lodge w/ **Bachelors of Fine Art** and **Talk of Animals**, Hi Dive, 8 p.m., $8
Dream Axe w/ **Golden Void** and **Dean Bracken**, The Independent, 8 p.m., $13, $15

Submissions for music listings should be e-mailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 29

EAST BAY

Loosadrew w/ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, [illegible], dancehall, [illegible], and world, Cafe Boulevar, 10 p.m., $5
Deep Cool Lounge 3411, 9 p.m., free
Disco Dental w/ [illegible] House, [illegible], freestyle and more, The Night Light, 9 p.m., free
DJ Cali spins soulful noise from all over the globe, Jupiter, 9 p.m., free
DJ Night funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, and urban hip-hop, Fly's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free
Golden Era Thursdays w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Vinyl at Venue Oakland, 10 p.m., free before 11pm, $5 after
The Hang w/ Hip-Hop w/ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, Club 21, 9 p.m., $5-$10
Soul of Dance w/ [illegible], The Layover, 10 p.m., free
So Groovy w/ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, R&B, dance, and [illegible], [illegible] Art and Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Shady Ground White Horse Inn, 10 p.m.-midnight, free
Vibe Mare w/ [illegible], [illegible], and Willie Maze, [illegible] & Lounge, 9:30 p.m., $TBA

SAN FRANCISCO

Throwback Thursdays w/ [illegible] Palmer and [illegible] spinning [illegible] pop, rock, and one-hit wonders, Cat Club, 9 p.m., free before 9:30 p.m., $6
[illegible] w/ Pete Avila, [illegible], Monarch, 9 p.m., $10 after 10pm
[illegible] LGBT [illegible] celebration party, The Cellar, 10 p.m., free
Palmer Thursdays [illegible], 8 p.m., free
Night [illegible] and [illegible], Madrone Art Bar, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Skylark, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], 9:30 p.m., free

FRIDAY 30

EAST BAY

DJ Boss Shop Happy Hour [illegible], Caribbean City, 4 p.m.
DJ Night funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, and urban hip-hop, Fly's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free
DJ Odisha's Fresh Jamz Happy Hour w/ [illegible] hip-hop, soul, and funk, The Night Light, 5-8 p.m., free
DJ Willie Mase Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Friday Night Salsa w/ guest DJs spinning salsa, La Estrellita Cafe, 10 p.m., $8
Hip-Hop Music Magic w/ [illegible], 9 p.m., $8
Bar Jam [illegible], Jupiter, 9 p.m., free
Ladies & Gentlemen w/ DJ [illegible] and [illegible], Era Art Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Old School hip-hop and funk, Radio, 9 p.m., free
Tempo w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] Lounge, 9:30 p.m., $5 after 11pm
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], dancehall, reggae, [illegible], Arabic music, and more, Congo Lounge, 10 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO

Actual [illegible] w/ [illegible], 1015 Folsom Nightclub, 10 p.m., $15-$20
DJ [illegible] Edinburgh Castle, 10 p.m., free
DJ Jazzy Jeff w/ Shortkut and Mr. E, Mighty, 9 p.m., $25-$30
[illegible] El Rio, 9 p.m., free
For Bar Story The Cellar, 10 p.m., $TBA
Friday Live w/ DJ [illegible] hip-hop, salsa, house, and [illegible] w/ rotating live [illegible] bands, El Rio, 10 p.m., free
Groove [illegible] w/ [illegible], Madrone Art and [illegible], $5 after 10pm
Hot [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], reggae, 9 p.m., $TBA
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], 9 p.m., $20-$25
[illegible] w/ [illegible], 10 p.m., $5
[illegible] w/ [illegible], and [illegible], 10 p.m., $7
Paris Dakar International w/ [illegible] and [illegible] spinning [illegible], dancehall, hip-hop, soul, and R&B, Little [illegible], 9 p.m., $8
Fever rotating DJs, The Endup, 10 p.m., $TBA
Palmer DeLong w/ [illegible] and [illegible], DNA Lounge, 9 p.m., $15-$20
Trap & Bass DNA Lounge, 9 p.m., $15-$20

SATURDAY 31

EAST BAY

[illegible] w/ [illegible], The Layover, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], Eighteen and Congo Lounge, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning hip-hop and R&B, [illegible] Bar, 9 p.m., $8 before 11 p.m.
DJ [illegible] [illegible], 9 p.m., free
DJ Night funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, and urban hip-hop, Fly's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free
Happy Hours w/ DJ [illegible] spinning punk, rock, indie, and [illegible] rock, Mosswood Lounge, 6-10 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], Latin flavors, [illegible], and more, White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., free before [illegible], $5 after
Magic Milk Combo w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning a genre-defying extravaganza, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Reggae Night w/ DJ [illegible], Paradise Club, 9 p.m., $10
Motown [illegible] w/ rotating DJs spinning classic hip-hop, [illegible], and world flavors, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 p.m., $5 before 11 p.m., $10 after
World Tour w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., $5 after 11pm

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] w/ [illegible], DNA Lounge, 9 p.m., $10-$20
Cutty Two-Tone spins ska, punk, new wave, 2-Tone, [illegible], reggae, [illegible], and Palmer, Madrone Art and 9 p.m., free
Club [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] Bay Area [illegible], 10 p.m., [illegible] 11 p.m., Madrone
DJ [illegible] [illegible] soul, [illegible], international psychedelia and the occasional [illegible], El Rio, 9:30 p.m., free
DJ [illegible] w/ [illegible] spinning [illegible], salsa, [illegible], and [illegible] dance-pop, Make-Out Room, 10 p.m., $5
Mars [illegible] w/ [illegible], Spill, and Shiny Objects, Beaux, 10 p.m., $10-$20
Paris Dakar International w/ [illegible] and [illegible] spinning [illegible], dancehall, hip-hop, soul, and R&B, Little Penguin, 9 p.m., $8
Pete Saturdays w/ Bay Bee Latin DJs, 1015 Folsom Nightclub, 10 p.m., $10 until 10:30pm, $20 after
DJ Designer [illegible], 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Jonathan [illegible] and more [illegible], 10 p.m., $20
Throwback [illegible] '90's House [illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Mighty, 9 p.m., free
Urban Cowboy w/ [illegible], Public Works, 9 p.m., $10-$30

SUNDAY 1

EAST BAY

Pinata [illegible] [illegible], 4 p.m., free
King of Kings Reggae Sundays w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible] spinning reggae, dancehall and [illegible] rock, [illegible], 10 p.m.
Sound Sundays w/ DJ [illegible] and DJ [illegible], Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] Sundays w/ [illegible] spinning [illegible], The Legionnaire Saloon, 8 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] after [illegible], 7 p.m., $15
Dub Mission w/ DJ Sep, Elbo Room, 9 p.m., $6-$10
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Monarch, 9 p.m., $5-$10
Temp Sundays The Cellar, 10 p.m., $TBA
Sunday MASS fresh electronic beats, [illegible] Chapel, 10 p.m., $5 after 11pm
[illegible] w/ [illegible], and more, The EndUp, 4 a.m.-8 p.m., $10
[illegible] [illegible] w/ funky grooves, The Knockout, 10 p.m., free

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MONDAY 2

EAST BAY

Motown on Mondays w/ Shortkut and [illegible], The Legionnaire Saloon, 8 p.m., free
Underground [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] music, Radio, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free
Palmer Soup [illegible] girl groups, and R&B, power pop nuggets, [illegible] punk grooves, [illegible], and more, Three Fifty-Five, 10 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Death Guild w/ [illegible] spinning gothic, [illegible], synthpop, dance, ambient, and weird stuff, DNA Lounge, 9:30 p.m., $3-$6
[illegible] Mondays w/ rotating guest DJs, Monarch, 10 p.m., free
Motown on Mondays w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible], The Captain, and guests spinning Motown, Madrone Art Bar, 9 p.m., $3 after 9pm
Punk Rock [illegible] [illegible], 9 p.m., free
Radical Vinyl a rotating lineup of DJs spin oldies, punk, psych, country and hip-hop, El Rio, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] spinning roots, dub, dancehall, and [illegible], Skylark, 10 p.m., free

TUESDAY 3

EAST BAY

Artist Lounge house, downtempo, [illegible], reggae, funky, and [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible], Era Art Bar & Lounge, 7 p.m., free
Layin' Low reggae, dancehall, and dub, The Layover, 10 p.m., free
Low Down [illegible] Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., $TBA
Tuesday Two-Step w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] Van Kleef, 9 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Amass Up w/ DJs [illegible] and [illegible] spinning reggae, dancehall, dubstep, and [illegible], [illegible], 10 p.m., $5
DJ [illegible] and Friends Make-Out Room, 9:30 p.m., free
Lost [illegible] Deep [illegible] Soul w/ [illegible], Make-Out Room, 9:30 p.m., free
Old-School Hip-Hop & [illegible] Little [illegible], 9 p.m., $5
Groove drum 'n' bass, Underground SF, 9 p.m., $6
Soundpieces w/ [illegible], 10 p.m., $5 before 11pm
[illegible] w/ [illegible] the Vinyl Archaeologist spinning [illegible] from hip-hop's golden era, Skylark, 10 p.m., free

WEDNESDAY 4

EAST BAY

DJ Willie Mase The Night Light, 9 p.m., free
The Git Down house, funk, soul, electronica, hip-hop, Latin, oldies, and more, Vinyl at Venue Oakland, 6-10 p.m., $12
Humpday Hayride w/ [illegible] Handsome Hawk and Tom LG spinning [illegible] country, classic country, and honky-tonk, The Night Light, 9 p.m., free
The Jet and w/ DJ [illegible] and special guests, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], The Layover, 9 p.m., free
Otis's Grotto feat. DJ Otis [illegible], 9 p.m., free
Pologne [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] and guests, The Legionnaire Saloon, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning everything from [illegible] to punk rock from the fifties through the [illegible], Merchant's Palmer, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free
Wickedness w/ DJ [illegible] spinning oldies, old school, hip-hop, and Latin music, [illegible] Bar, 9 p.m., free
World Wide [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] & Lounge, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] an eclectic mix of art, vibes, [illegible], Era Art Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., $5

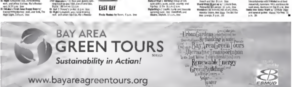
PICK

Humpday Hayride
DJs Handsome Hawk and Tom LG grew up in homes where Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, Bob Wills, and Buck Owens were played. Hawk, who was raised in Virginia, became a fan of punk in his late teens. His worlds collided when he discovered rockabilly, psychobilly, and hillbilly bands as a booker for 924 Gilman. Hawk and LG have a new weekly night of honky-tonk and classic and outlaw country music at The Night Light (311 Broadway, Oakland). Just don't expect to hear popular country tunes. In an email, he wrote, "Kenny Chesney can kiss my ass. But when I started seeing local and touring bands like Red Meat, Hank III, The Horton Brothers, Deke Dickerson, Big Sandy and others, it got me to go back and rediscover George Jones, David Allan Coe and Waylon Jennings." Both Hawk and LG have massive record collections, so their sets should be a treat. — *Madeleine Key*

Wednesday, June 4, 9 p.m., free. TheNightLightOakland.com

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible] spinning [illegible], Latin, Afro-beat, and more, [illegible], 10 p.m., free
DJ [illegible] The Cellar, 9 p.m., [illegible]
DJ [illegible] spins [illegible] and reggaeton, Little Baobab, 9 p.m., $3
High International Bloodshed rotating Thai funk, [illegible], Afro-funk, rocksteady and more, Makeout Room, 9 p.m., free
Soul Palmer w/ [illegible] and more, Beaux, 9 p.m., $3 after 10pm
Mixtape Wednesday w/ [illegible] and [illegible] spin classic hip-hop, reggae, funk, and soul, Skylark, 10 p.m., $5
Deep Bar Boot the neighborhood's [illegible] w/ [illegible] dancehall, [illegible] R&B and [illegible] each week, Madrone Art Bar, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] Salsa Night w/ DJ [illegible] and special guests, [illegible] Hip-Hop, 10 p.m., $8 ■



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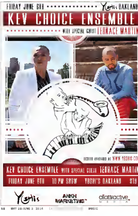
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SAVAGE LOVE

BIG ISSUES

Fantasies of big cock, sister outing, and swapping positions

By Dan Savage

I'm a 25-year-old straight guy. Last month, I was in the locker room at my gym. It was 4 a.m., and I was the only one around. I was getting ready to leave, when I noticed someone exiting the showers. He kinda caught me looking (he was very well-endowed) and I quickly turned my head, embarrassed. About twenty seconds later, he came around the corner and said, "Hey, how ya doin'?" He was still naked, and it was obvious that he was wondering if I wanted to try something. (Trust me — he was about ten or eleven inches now!) I didn't know what to think, so I just got the hell out of there as fast as I could. I've never been with a guy before, but for the past few weeks, I can't stop thinking about it. I kinda wish I hadn't left so fast. I guess I'm really turned on by the size, and curious about maybe trying oral? That's all I'm curious about trying. I am way more attracted to girls than guys, but I can't shake these thoughts.

Panic At The Dick, So?

I was wondering what happened to Joey from *Friends*.

Look, PATDS, you're clearly straight enough to continue identifying as straight. But as you learned in that locker room, to get yourself to straight (or to remain at straight) you have to round yourself down the tiniest bit. (Or round yourself up the tiniest bit — depends on how you feel about straight.) But you are now consciously aware that you're more than a little curious about dick, and given the right circumstances and the right dick, you could lick/suck/stroke that.

Since that giant 4 a.m. dick wasn't your last chance at dick, PATDS, you didn't miss your only opportunity to explore your man-on-man desires. There are other giant dicks out there. Hell, you might get another chance at that particular dick. The next time an opportunity presents itself — whether you leave that opportunity to chance (another encounter with Mr Ten or Eleven Inches Now) or create your own opportunities (taking out a few NSA sex ads) — put your very limited interests (oral only) and even more limited experience (none whatsoever) on the table and let the dude decide if he's in (your mouth).

I'm a 25-year-old lesbian, and I live with my partner of two years. My family is coming to visit from Texas, where they are part of a hyperconservative church. I'm not out to my mom. While I want this to be a happy occasion, I'm not willing to hide who I am in my own home. My sister owes me one from when I told our mom — at her request — that she was pregnant because she feared her reaction. I'm considering asking my sister to out me to my mom so that maybe she'll be done screaming and yelling by the time she arrives. I know this is chickenshit, but I also can't bring myself to come out to her. I've tried before and can never summon the courage.

Anxiously Fearing Repulsive And Irrational Diatribes

My advice for you is the same as my advice for all queer kids with crazy hyperconservative parents: Don't fear their rejection — *make them fear yours.* Tell your mom you're queer, AFRAID, and then tell her that you won't speak to her or see her if she can't treat you and your partner with respect. Remember: The only leverage an adult child has over her parents is her presence. If your mom treats you like shit, absent yourself. If she's rude to you in your own home, kick her ass out. You're a grown woman, and it's time to stop being scared of mommy.

My boyfriend and I have been together for four years, and we have a great relationship. In the bedroom, I am generally the bottom but I play an equal role during sex — neither dominant nor submissive — and in general, we have great sex. But both of us have things that we like to do that the other is not a big fan of. I enjoy being the bottom, but I like to top as well. My partner, who does not particularly enjoy bottoming, is turned on by the idea of the other person being submissive. Both of us are GGG and willing to explore these things together. But is it okay to put limits on how often this happens? What about striking a deal where each person gives a little? How do we compromise, keep it fun, and keep our GGG status intact?

Quid Pro Quo

What I'm about to propose may seem elaborate, QPQ, but bear this in mind while you read my advice: Marijuana is legal where I live.

Take the average number of times you two have sex in any given month and divide that number in half, then divide it in half again. You each get a stack of red poker chips equal to whatever the third number is plus one blue poker chip. So let's say you guys have sex twelve times a month on average. Half of twelve is six, half of six is three — you each get four chips, three red, one blue. (You still with me? Good.) You keep your chips on your nightstand, and your boyfriend keeps his chips on his. On nights when you want to top your boyfriend, you hand him one of your red chips. On nights when he wants you to be submissive, he hands you one of his red chips. If he doesn't want to bottom for you on a night when you hand him a chip, he can veto your red chip by surrendering one of his. Likewise, you can veto one of his red chips by surrendering one of yours. When a veto is played, you default to the sex you have most of the time, i.e., your "regular" sexual routine (which seems to entail you bottoming for him as his equal) and the chip used to veto is forfeit. You each have to use your three red chips in one calendar month — an unused chip doesn't carry over to the next month.

Basically you have three chances per month to top him, and he has three chances per month to dominate you. If he wants to deny you one of your chances to top him, he loses one of his chances to dominate you. You don't have to be submissive when you're not feeling it, and he doesn't have to bottom when he's not feeling it. But if you never agree to submit, you never get to top him. If he never agrees to bottom, then he never gets to dominate you. And what's the blue chip for? It's a "free veto," a chip you can sacrifice without giving up one of your chances to fuck or dominate the other.

So there you go! Have fun! ●

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at TheStranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net

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LEGAL NOTICES

[illegible]

6/13, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement

[illegible]

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate of

[illegible]

Fictitious Business Name Statement

[illegible]

[illegible]

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

[illegible]

Fictitious Business Name Statement

[illegible]

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 49[illegible]

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Bayfront [illegible] Business: [illegible] Emeryville, CA 94608. Mailing Business name as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): [illegible], CA [illegible]. This business is conducted by Copartners. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on [illegible]. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 5/13/14.

Bayfront [illegible]
5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 491[illegible]

The following individual is doing business as [illegible] [illegible] St., Oakland CA 94608. Mailing Business name as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): [illegible], [illegible] St., Oakland, CA 94608. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 5/13/14.

[illegible]
5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18/2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: RG14[illegible]

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 1225 Fallon Street Oakland CA 94612 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name [illegible] to Proposed Name [illegible]. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: August 1, 2014 at 9:30 A.M. in Dept. # 31, at 1225 Fallon St., Oakland, CA 94612 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California. Dated: May [illegible] 2014 Signed: [illegible] Judge of the Superior Court

5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 491[illegible]

The following individual is doing business as [illegible] Media, [illegible] St., Oakland, CA 94606. Mailing Business name as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): [illegible], [illegible] St., Oakland, CA 94606. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 5/13/14.

[illegible] Media
5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11/2014

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate of

JEFFREY M. HANEY AKA JEFFREY MERVIN HANEY
CASE NO. RP14[illegible]

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JEFFREY M. HANEY AKA JEFFREY MERVIN HANEY A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by [illegible] HANEY in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that [illegible] HANEY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 6/17/2014 at 9:30 A.M. in Dept. 201 located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner Michael A. [illegible], [illegible] Main Street, Third Floor [illegible], CA [illegible]. Telephone: [illegible]

5/28, 6/4, 6/11/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement File # 49[illegible]

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as [illegible] Oakland, [illegible] [illegible] Fremont, CA 94538. Mailing Business name as above is hereby registered by the following owner(s): [illegible], [illegible] St., Fremont, CA 94538; [illegible], [illegible] St., Fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/12/14. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 5/13/14.

[illegible]
5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11/2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: RG14[illegible]

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 1225 Fallon Street Oakland CA 94612 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name [illegible] to Proposed Name JULIEANN BOSTON-WEBB. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: August 15, 2014 at 9:30 A.M. in Dept. # 31, at 1225 Fallon St., Oakland CA 94612 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California. Dated: May 28, 2014. Signed: Winifred Y. Smith Judge of the Superior Court

5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18/2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: RG14[illegible]

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name [illegible] to Proposed Name [illegible]. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: August 8, 2014 at 9:30 A.M. in Dept. # 31, at 1225 Fallon St., Oakland CA 94612 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California. Dated: May [illegible] 2014. Signed: Winifred Y. Smith Judge of the Superior Court

5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11/2014

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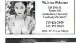
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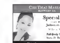
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NOTICE TO CLASS

IF YOU LIVED AT THE FERN'S HOTEL, LOCATED AT 415 15TH STREET, OAKLAND CA, FOR AT LEAST 30 CONSECUTIVE DAYS DURING THE PERIOD OF MAY 15, 2008 UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2012, YOU COULD GET A PAYMENT FROM A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Residents of The Fern's Hotel have sued the past owners claiming that those owners did not maintain the Hotel in habitable condition and that there were defective living conditions at the Hotel including a bed bug infestation and lack of heat. The Court decided that if a proposed settlement is approved, this lawsuit should be a "Class Action" for a class or group of people that may include you.

This Notice summarizes your rights and options regarding this proposed settlement. More information, including a more detailed Notice, is available at the website below.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS?

To qualify for payment of money, you must submit a Claim Form. A Claim Form may be enclosed with this Notice, or they are available from class counsel or on the internet at fernshotelclassaction.com. Read the instructions carefully, fill out and sign the Form, include the requested documents and mail it to the Settlement Administrator (address below). You may mail the Claim Form now, but it must be *postmarked no later than September 5, 2014.*

If you are a Class Member, you may exclude yourself, or "opt out," from this Class Action and settlement, by submitting an Exclusion Form. An Exclusion Form may be enclosed with this Notice, or they are available from class counsel or on the internet at fernshotelclassaction.com. If you opt out, you'll no longer be in the class, you will not share in the settlement, and you may file your own individual lawsuit(s) as permitted by law. To opt out, mail the Exclusion Form to the Settlement Administrator at the address below, *postmarked no later than September 5, 2014.*

You may choose to object to the settlement if you don't like any part of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it. The Court will consider all objections at a Fairness Hearing on September 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in Department 21 of the Alameda County Superior Court located at 1221 Oak Street in Oakland. At this hearing the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. The Court will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the settlement. To object, you must send a letter saying that you object to the settlement in *Kelly, et al. v. Cathay Bank, et al.* Include your name, address, telephone number, your signature, and the reasons you object to the settlement. Mail the objection to the Settlement Administrator at the address below, ***postmarked no later than September 5, 2014.***

If you are a member of the "Settlement Class", your deadline to file a claim is September 5, 2014.

Who's affected?

All members of the "Settlement Class" as follows are affected:

All persons who were residents of The Fern's Hotel for at least 30 consecutive days during the period of May 15, 2008 to December 31, 2012,

except any persons who have opted out of this Class Action lawsuit.

The Settlement Class does NOT include persons who dismissed with prejudice claims of an personal injury breach of warranty of habitability concerning their occupancy at The Fern's Hotel during the stated time period in individual lawsuits against Defendant Cathay Bank and/or Defendant Stacy Pang Stone.

SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENT

The parties have entered into a proposed settlement that will provide cash to the members of the class. The lawsuit is called *Kelly, et al. v. Cathay Bank, et al.*, Alameda County Superior Court Case No. RG 12-630193. The settlement total to be paid by or on behalf of the past owners of The Fern's Hotel is $260,000 in cash payments.

BENEFITS TO CLASS MEMBERS

To receive a cash payment, a Class Member must submit a Claim Form. Each Class Member's individual share of the settlement benefits will depend on the number of valid Claim Forms submitted. Class Members who were residents at The Fern's Hotel for more days during the Class Period will get more money than Class Members who were residents for less days.

All of the cash available for Class Members will be distributed. The settlement provides for a least $171,333.00 in cash to be provided to Class Members. The cash will be divided among Class Members who submit a valid Claim Form, based on the number of days that they resided at the Hotel between May 15, 2008 and December 31, 2012.

Class counsel estimates that Class Members will receive about $5.00 in cash for every day that they resided at the Hotel during the relevant period of time. The actual amounts will depend on the number of Claim Forms submitted. Actual benefits may be smaller, but will probably be larger than the numbers given above.

WHO REPRESENTS YOU?

The Court has decided that the law firms of Greenstein & McDonald (address below), (415) 773-1300, and Law Office of Jay B. Koslofsky, P.O. Box 9231, Berkeley, CA 94709, (510) 280-5627, are qualified to represent the class members. Together the law firms are called "Class counsel."

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR

FERN'S HOTEL CLASS ACTION
c/o Kenneth M. Greenstein
Greenstein & McDonald
300 Montgomery St., Ste. 621
San Francisco CA 94104
PHONE: (415) 773-1240
FAX: (415) 773-1244

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL OR WRITE THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR, OR VISIT THE WEBSITE:

http://www.FernsHotelClassAction.com

DO NOT CALL THE COURT WITH QUESTIONS!

Publication date: 5/28/14

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